



PHS Case No. 18-0153-FOIA

May 1, 2020

Sara Creighton
American Oversight
1030 15th Street NW, Suite B255
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Sara Creighton:

This is the second interim response to your April 2, 2018, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. You requested the following: “[All communications (including email messages, text messages, instant messages, letters, memoranda or any other communications) sent to or from anyone in the Office on Women’s Health regarding the womenshealth.gov website or any other websites hosting or containing content relating to the Office on Women’s Health, between January 1, 2017, and the date your search is conducted.”

The Department has processed 1650 pages of potentially responsive records captured in the agency’s search for FOIA request 18-00934-FOIA. After a careful review of these pages, I have determined to release 1535 pages to you in their entirety, and I am further releasing 115 pages in part, with portions redacted, pursuant to Exemptions (b)(5) and (b)(6) of the FOIA (5 U.S.C. § 552), of which the referenced pages are enclosed.

FOIA exemption (b)(5) protects inter-agency or intra-agency memoranda or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency. This exemption protects documents that would be covered by any privilege an agency could assert in a civil proceeding. These privileges include, among others, the deliberative process privilege, the attorney-client privilege, and the attorney work-product privilege.

FOIA exemption (b)(6) permits a Federal agency to withhold information and records about individuals in “personnel and medical files and similar files, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.”

We will continue to review the remaining records as efficiently and expeditiously as possible, consistent with our available resources and the Order of the Court. Should you have questions or concerns regarding the Department’s response and/or the processing of your request, any such issues should be communicated to your legal counsel and the Department of Justice Attorney representing the Department in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Brandon J. Gaylord
Director
FOI/Privacy Act Division

From:	Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>
To:	Scott, Deborah A., M.D. <dscott1@bwh.harvard.edu>
CC:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Subject:	RE: Seeking your expertise to review Acne fact sheet for government website
Date:	2018/04/06 14:13:05
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Dr. Scott,

Thank you so much for your help reviewing the Acne fact sheet! We are very excited to have your expertise applied to this topic and greatly appreciate your time.

I have attached the fact sheet draft. As you review, please feel free to either make edits using Word's "track changes" feature, or put suggestions in comments if that is easier. You can then email the file back to me when you are finished. We are primarily concerned with having scientifically and technically accurate content that also addresses women's most important questions and issues—all in plain language.

If you think you'll need more time to review, please let me know and we'll work to accommodate your schedule. Don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions during this process.

Many thanks!

Sincerely,

-Tess

Tess Feldhausen, M.A.
Health/Web Writer

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 208.303.0224

e: tfeldhausen@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D2DA20.92AA2B00

From: Scott, Deborah A., M.D. [mailto:dscott1@bwh.harvard.edu]
Sent: Friday, April 06, 2018 2:00 PM
To: Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: Re: Seeking your expertise to review Acne fact sheet for government website

yes, I will be able to review and offer suggestions. Please let me know how I should proceed

Sent from my iPhone.

On Apr 6, 2018, at 10:42 AM, Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com> wrote:

Hello Dr. Scott,

I am a contractor working with Brooke Leggin at the HHS Office on Women's Health. I found your name while searching for a dermatologist involved in women-specific acne issues. I am writing to ask if you would be available and interested in reviewing a fact sheet on Acne for the OWH website, womenshealth.gov.

We are in the process of updating this fact sheet, and we would greatly appreciate any help you could provide in reviewing it for scientific and technical accuracy. We want to ensure that we are asking the questions that patients would ask, and that we are providing information that you think is crucial to include, such as:

- Are these questions that women ask during an office visit? Are we missing anything that should be included?
- Is the information scientifically and technically accurate?
- Are the bulleted lists of symptoms or treatments in the correct order (e.g. most common to least common)?

Womenshealth.gov is written in plain language at a 6th to 8th grade reading level, so please note that we may need to revise edits to lower the reading level.

Please let me know if you have time in the next few weeks to review the attached fact sheet. Ideally, the deadline for review comments would be **April 30**, but we can certainly accommodate any schedule conflicts you may have. We would also be happy to credit you as an expert reviewer on the OWH website once the content is published.

If you are unable to review the content, I wonder if you might suggest another practicing clinician with expertise in this area who can review.

Thank you so much for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Tess Feldhausen, MA

Contractor, on behalf of the Office on Women's Health
Health/Web writer

Palladian Partners, Inc.
8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910
t: 208.303.0224
e: tfeldhausen@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com

<Acne fact sheet_01.10.17_For-Expert-Review.docx>

The information in this e-mail is intended only for the person to whom it is addressed. If you believe this e-mail was sent to you in error and the e-mail contains patient information, please contact the Partners Compliance HelpLine at <http://www.partners.org/complianceline> . If the e-mail was sent to you in error but does not contain patient information, please contact the sender and properly dispose of the e-mail.

Sender:	Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>
Recipient:	Scott, Deborah A.,M.D. <dscott1@bwh.harvard.edu>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Sent Date:	2018/04/06 14:10:58
Delivered Date:	2018/04/06 14:13:05

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=dea7a1431ae44d91b13720f07c5069cf-Hayes, Step>
CC:	Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39a84338d5c743fc9cd63a2fdaaefcdb-Bishop-Craw>; Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3162cd18b6fe4e3f894fd7ff80c0e17d-CollinsShar>
Subject:	RE: Brief discussion re changing "FGC" to "FGM"
Date:	2018/05/02 18:14:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thanks Stephen. This is great. I've forwarded the information on to the web team and will let you know when the updates are live.

From: Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2018 3:58 PM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) <Beth.Collins-Sharp@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Brief discussion re changing "FGC" to "FGM"

Hi, everyone – Nicole chose the second one:

- Longer with explanation mentioning federal usage: "This fact sheet has been updated to include the most current and commonly used terms for Female Genital Cutting (FGC). We are updating the title of this fact sheet and the way we refer to FGC by using the term Female Genital Mutilation or Cutting (FGM/C). FGM/C encompasses any procedure involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. FGM/C is the term used by the departments and agencies in the federal government as part of their response to this harmful practice."

Documentation attached. Here for questions. Thanks!

From: Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 9:25 AM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) <Beth.Collins-Sharp@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Brief discussion re changing "FGC" to "FGM"

I've forwarded to Nicole with context, will circle back when I hear back.

From: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 3:35 PM
To: Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH) <Stephen.Hayes@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

<Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) <Beth.Collins-Sharp@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Brief discussion re changing "FGC" to "FGM"

Please have Nicole determine and approve the language to use. Then send it back I us.
Thanks

On: 23 April 2018 14:43, "Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH)" <Stephen.Hayes@hhs.gov> wrote:
Don't know what best suits your preferences, feel free to combine. You are more familiar with the considerations associated with altering online content at the moment:

• (b)(5)



•

•

The condensed version of why this change is necessary is that we're the only federal office that uses FGC, WHO and other health-oriented bodies use FGM or FGM/C, and FGM/c is also a more inclusive term. I think the first explanation is adequate, but again, defer to your preference.

Thanks

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:17 PM
To: Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH) <Stephen.Hayes@hhs.gov>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>; Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) <Beth.Collins-Sharp@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Brief discussion re changing "FGC" to "FGM"

Thanks Stephen. What we need is a statement about why we're changing it. It should say something like:

(b)(5)

The statement you included is helpful but is already in the text of the fact sheet. We need to let people know the **WHY** behind the change, not just about the change. Feel free to draft a statement where the why, highlighted in yellow, says whatever you think is best.

From: Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH)

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:10 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>; Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) <Beth.Collins-Sharp@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Brief discussion re changing "FGC" to "FGM"

Hi, all – sharing some language for your review per our conversation last week. This is in response to the point that was made about how ME/CFS language is presented:

Female Genital Mutilation or Cutting (FGM/C), sometimes referred to as Female Genital Mutilation, or Female Genital Cutting, encompasses any procedure involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons.

Please let me know if you require any additional information. Thank you!

From: Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH)

Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 11:05 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>; Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) <Beth.Collins-Sharp@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Brief discussion re changing "FGC" to "FGM"

Hi, everyone – Brooke requested some additional documentation of rationale. Providing that here:

- Common Usage: the practice is most commonly referred to as "Female Genital Mutilation" with the acronym "FGM." Searching for "Female Genital Cutting" or "FGC" does not always yield the same results as FGM or FGM/C. Further, FGM/C is inclusive of both and leads to mixed
- [Top 5 Search Results for "FGC"](#) are (1) Florida Gateway College, (2) Friends General Conference, (3) Fighting game community - Wiki, (4) FGC – Wiki (disambiguated), and (5) Dragon Ball FighterZ Is a Spirit Bomb for the FGC – Red Bull
- [Four of the top hits for "Female Genital Cutting"](#): use "Female Genital Mutilation"
- Federal Usage
- [The GAO Report](#) on the federal response to this issue uses "FGM/C." This document provided recommendations to multiple departments in the Executive Branch.

- Existing materials developed by other federal offices use FGM/C. [USCIS](#), [Department of State](#), and the only official estimate on prevalence authored by our CDC colleagues [here](#)

Hope this is helpful. Thanks!

-Stephen

From: Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH)

Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 12:48 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) <Beth.Collins-Sharp@hhs.gov>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Brief discussion re changing "FGC" to "FGM"

Hi, Brooke – I just wanted to share a recap of our impromptu conversation on Friday for everyone's benefit:

(b)(5)

Please correct me if I'm wrong on any of these points, i didn't have my notebook with me when we chatted so I'm doing this from memory.

Beth and I may be a little late for our 3 o'clock as we'll be across the street at Switzer from 2-3. let me know if you'd rather reschedule.

Thanks!
Stephen

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 8:00 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH); Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI);

Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)

Subject: Brief discussion re changing "FGC" to "FGM"

When: Monday, April 16, 2018 3:00 PM-3:15 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US &Canada).

Where: OWH Conference Room

<<File: DSC Tech Assist form_FGCanwebsite.pdf >>THanks Stephen for submitting the DSC request form. We wanted to touch base in person about the request so that we can get it started correctly.

Thanks.

Brooke

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=dea7a1431ae44d91b13720f07c5069cf-Hayes, Step>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39a84338d5c743fc9cd63a2fdaaefcdb-Bishop-Craw>; Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3162cd18b6fe4e3f894fd7ff80c0e17d-CollinsShar>
Sent Date:	2018/05/02 18:14:21
Delivered Date:	2018/05/02 18:14:00

From:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
To:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: NWHW Website Review Links
Date:	2018/04/20 10:22:04
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thank you.

Brooke – you don’t need to worry about the fact sheet comment. I know what Alli is referring to ;) ;)

Alli—NWHW partner toolkit will be in your inbox today. I am reviewing now.

Me

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 10:18 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Great! We’ll get those out.

Also, the updated NWHW fact sheet will go up on Monday. We replaced “women’s health” with “healthy living.”

Thanks!

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 10:14 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Fine with me too.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 10:13 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Sounds good to me, so that the winner will be sent prior to 5:00pm on a Friday ☺

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 10:11 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

If everything looks good to you, should we get the e-blasts out? Thanks!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 9:31 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Yay! Go Team!

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 9:28 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Thank you.

It's live.

Me

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 5:26 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Hi Jill,

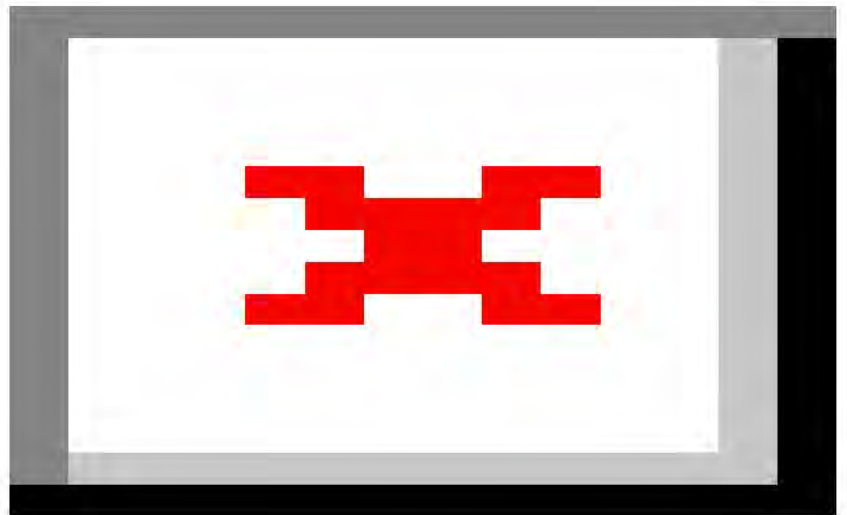
The fonts and spacing are the same across browsers. Chuck explained that different browsers render fonts differently, which might make them appear larger in some cases. However, the font size is defined independently of which browser is being used. IE in particular does weird things that make it nearly impossible to make anything in it look the same as it does in other browsers, and there's just not much we can do about it after a certain point.

Also, the font used for the quiz questions matches the rest of the site. It's just bigger.

We'll move forward with publishing the site. We expect to have it up and running first thing in the morning. I'll keep you in the loop!

Thanks!
Alli

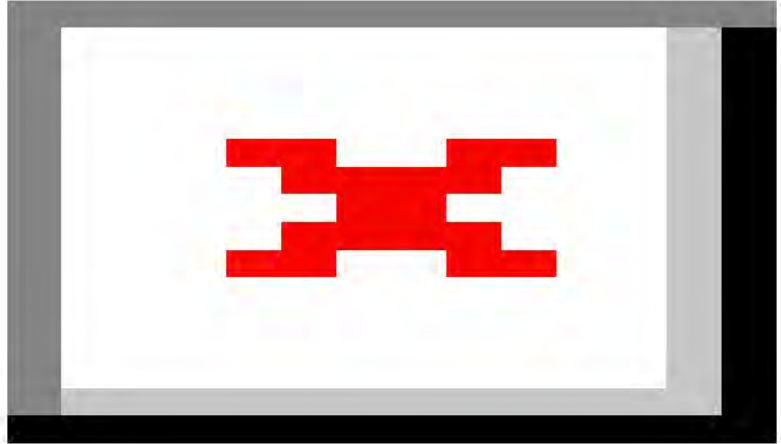
From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 4:56 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links



cid:image002.png@01D3D801.DA48B000

This—above-- is Internet Explorer. See how disclaimer looks spaced differently?

It looks fine on Google Chrome:



cid:image004.png@01D3D801.DA48B000

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 4:24 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Hi! Yes, the icons were removed, and the fact sheets are now visible.

As for the partner/ambassador pages, will you please send me a screenshot and let me know what browser and version you're using? They look the same on my computer.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 4:21 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

It's me again.

I see that the old checklists were removed—in regard to my questions to the 1st bullet.

But one last item: The disclaimers on partner and ambassador pages seem spaced differently and/or maybe a different size font...will you make sure they appear the same in size and spacing as text about them, please?

When that is done and fact sheet placed back on, I would like to go live for tonight or tomorrow morning. Pretty please.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 4:12 PM
To: 'Allison Hall-Jordan' <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Hi Alli –

See below in red.

Jill

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 3:15 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Hi Jill,

We've completed making the requested changes, including the following:

- Removed the preventing falls bullets from the 60s through 90s pages **Great and did we remove the yucky checklists until we get the pretty PDFs for each decade?**
- Hide the fact sheet (and I'm waiting to hear how long it'll take to make the change) **Hmmm, we said to keep the fact sheet up in left side of page//left navigation WHILE you make the minor change...then switch it out next week.**
- Updated the quiz line **Great**

Full site: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw>
Quiz link: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/quiz>

Did I miss anything?

Thanks,
Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 10:54 AM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: FW: NWHW Website Review Links

Please remove it entirely -- Preventing falls with vitamin D and exercise -- in 60s, 70, 80s, and 90s, as Brooke recommends and I agree.

It's ironic b/c Valerie just sent me her quick review of website and said this: *In the section Talk to My Doctor for ages 60+ section: It's not clear to me how one prevents falls with vitamin D.*

I guess it's good that we remove it for that reason too. LOL.

Jill

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 3:24 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

From a health writing perspective I would just recommend deleting that bullet entirely since there isn't another source of the fall information.

This is the language from USPSTF:

Conclusions and Recommendation The USPSTF concludes that the current evidence is insufficient to assess the balance of the benefits and harms of vitamin D and calcium supplementation, alone or combined, for the primary prevention of fractures in community-dwelling, asymptomatic men and premenopausal women. (I statement) The USPSTF concludes that the current evidence is insufficient to assess the balance of the benefits and harms of daily supplementation with doses greater than 400 IU of vitamin D and greater than 1000 mg of calcium for the primary prevention of fractures in community-dwelling, postmenopausal women. (I statement) The USPSTF recommends against daily supplementation with 400 IU or less of vitamin D and 1000 mg or less of calcium for the primary prevention of fractures in community-dwelling, postmenopausal women. (D recommendation) These recommendations do not apply to persons with a history of osteoporotic fractures, increased risk for falls, or a diagnosis of osteoporosis or vitamin D deficiency.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 3:20 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Hi Jill,

Thanks for your feedback! We've added #NWHW to the "Share your best health advice" box, and we'll plan on adding the fact sheet to the about page. That's a good idea! It's looking like we'll have the fact sheet up by the end of the week.

Also, the health writing team noticed that [USPSTF issued a statement](#) yesterday that says it no longer recommends the use of vitamin D to prevent falls. The only place where this is referenced on womenshealth.gov is in the NWHW content. It's under the "Every day I will try to" sections of the 60s, 70s, 80s, and 90s pages. We recommend changing the bullet to say: "Talk to my doctor at least once a year about... Ways to prevent falls." Whatever change we make to the website, we will make the corresponding page to the PDFs for these decades. Please let us know what you think.

Thanks!
Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 2:06 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Hi Alli –

1. • <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/tools/social-media>

Can we add #NWHW after the #WhatIWishIdKnown? If that is OK social media etiquette, we need to make sure we are consistent in our other content and materials where this comes up (e.g., toolkit).

Share your best health advice.

We're asking women to share their wisdom with women of other generations. No matter your age, you can share valuable health lessons and inspire others to take actionable steps to improve their current and future health. Share your "What I wish I'd known" story on social media using **#WhatIWishIdKnown #NWHW**

2. • <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/about> I'd like to be able to click on the NWHW fact sheet from this page. Doesn't that make good sense?

Once these two items are discussed and taken care of, I think we are good to go on going live.

We meet with Tara tomorrow so I plan to ask about the quiz—might go to her office before our meeting to ask.

Items that you are aware that we need to get into SCP:

- (1) Printer-friendly PDFs for each decade—once done and in SCP, those can go live.
- (2) Infocards, etc. for social media.

Thanks,

Me

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 10:46 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

- We removed all mentions of the quiz from the site, including from the left nav. We can easily add them back in once it's approved.
- We uploaded the approved social media language, but we're still waiting on the Thunderclap link. When mentioned, you'll see that there either isn't a link or it links to the old Thunderclap page. Once we get approval on the CTP from Ann, we can create the 2018 Thunderclap and upload the new link.
- The quiz has its own review link.
- We're still working on share buttons for the quiz. They'll end up looking a lot like the share buttons on the blog.
- Please note that the quiz disclaimer is beneath the quiz, per your request.

Review link: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw>

Quiz link: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/quiz/>

ALLISON HALL-JORDAN

Account Supervisor

1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
D 202.706.7439



cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226

Sender:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
Recipient:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/04/20 10:22:01
Delivered Date:	2018/04/20 10:22:04

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>
CC:	Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) (Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Emily Dammeyer (EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com) <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>
Subject:	RE: Review request: Date Rape Drug fact sheet for the HHS Office on Women's Health
Date:	2018/05/09 13:50:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thanks Tess, this is super helpful!

From: Tess Feldhausen [mailto:TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 09, 2018 1:48 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Tara Rodgers
<TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: FW: Review request: Date Rape Drug fact sheet for the HHS Office on Women's Health

Hi Brooke!

Just forwarding this along for your records. I will make sure to include you on refusals, too, from now on. I'll also explore potential SMEs as NIDA rather than FDA. Thank you! I hope you feel better soon!

Best,

-Tess

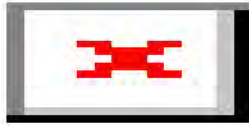
Tess Feldhausen, M.A.
Health/Web Writer

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 208.303.0224

e: tfeldhausen@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D2DA20.92AA2B00

From: Dunnick, June (NIH/NIEHS) [E] [<mailto:dunnickj@niehs.nih.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 10:40 AM
To: Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: Re: Review request: Date Rape Drug fact sheet for the HHS Office on Women's Health

Hi Tess, We were unable to find anyone else down here to review this document. June

Dr. June K. Dunnick
NIEHS
P. O. Box 12233
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
dunnickj@niehs.nih.gov
984-287-3124

From: Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 10:39 AM
To: June Dunnick <dunnickj@niehs.nih.gov>
Subject: RE: Review request: Date Rape Drug fact sheet for the HHS Office on Women's Health

Hi Dr. Dunnick,

I think you already asked around your office to see if another toxicologist might be able to assist with this, but I just wanted to make sure. Do you know of anyone else I might contact? I will also explore reaching out to FDA.

Thanks very much,

-Tess

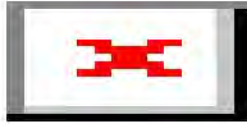
Tess Feldhausen, M.A.
Health/Web Writer

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
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t: 208.303.0224

e: tfeldhausen@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



id:image001.jpg@01D2DA20.92AA2B00

From: Dunnick, June (NIH/NIEHS) [E] [\[mailto:dunnickj@niehs.nih.gov\]](mailto:dunnickj@niehs.nih.gov)

Sent: Friday, February 16, 2018 1:24 PM

To: Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>

Subject: Re: Review request: Date Rape Drug fact sheet for the HHS Office on Women's Health

Dear Tess,

I was unable to review this document. Perhaps you could contact FDA for a review of these drugs.

Best regards. June

Dr. June K. Dunnick

NIEHS

P. O. Box 12233

Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

dunnickj@niehs.nih.gov

984-287-3124

From: Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>

Date: Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 3:56 PM

To: June Dunnick <dunnickj@niehs.nih.gov>

Cc: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Subject: Review request: Date Rape Drug fact sheet for the HHS Office on Women's Health

Dear Dr. Dunnick,

I am a contractor working with Brooke Leggin at the HHS Office on Women's Health. I found your name via the NIEHS toxicology program. I am writing to ask if you would be available and interested in reviewing a fact sheet on date rape drugs for the OWH website, womenshealth.gov. In particular, we are seeking a review of the drug information and the drugs' effects on the body. Your reviews would help us ensure our material is scientifically and technically accurate.

Womenshealth.gov is written in plain language at a 6th to 8th grade reading level. Please note that we may need to revise edits to lower the reading level.

Please let me know if you have time in the next few weeks to review the attached fact sheet. Ideally, we would like to receive your revisions by **Feb. 1**, but we can certainly accommodate your schedule. If you are unable to review the fact sheet, I wonder if you might consider sharing it with a colleague who can.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration of this request.

Best,

Tess Feldhausen, MA

Health/Web writer

on behalf of the Office on Women's Health

Palladian Partners, Inc.
8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910
t: 208.303.0224
e: tfeldhausen@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) (Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Emily Dammeyer (EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com) <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>
Sent Date:	2018/05/09 13:50:27
Delivered Date:	2018/05/09 13:50:00

From:	Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=DEA7A1431AE44D91B13720F07C5069CF-HAYES, STEP>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39a84338d5c743fc9cd63a2fdaaefcdb-Bishop-Craw>; Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3162cd18b6fe4e3f894fd7ff80c0e17d-CollinsShar>
Subject:	RE: Brief discussion re changing "FGC" to "FGM"
Date:	2018/04/23 14:43:01
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Don't know what best suits your preferences, feel free to combine. You are more familiar with the considerations associated with altering online content at the moment:

- Short with minimal explanation: "This fact sheet has been updated to include the most current and commonly used terms for Female Genital Cutting (FGC). We are updating the title of this fact sheet and the way we refer to FGC by using the term Female Genital Mutilation or Cutting (FGM/C). FGM/C includes any procedure involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons."
- Longer with explanation mentioning federal usage: "This fact sheet has been updated to include the most current and commonly used terms for Female Genital Cutting (FGC). We are updating the title of this fact sheet and the way we refer to FGC by using the term Female Genital Mutilation or Cutting (FGM/C). FGM/C encompasses any procedure involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. FGM/C is the term used by the departments and agencies in the federal government as part of their response to this harmful practice."
- Longer with explanation mentioning federal usage: "This fact sheet has been updated to include the most current and commonly used terms for Female Genital Cutting (FGC). We are updating the title of this fact sheet and the way we refer to FGC by using the term Female Genital Mutilation or Cutting (FGM/C). FGM/C includes any procedure involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. FGM/C . The term 'FGM/C' is inclusive and reflective of common usage in clinical and other sectors working to address FGM/C in the U.S."

The condensed version of why this change is necessary is that we're the only federal office that uses FGC, WHO and other health-oriented bodies use FGM or FGM/C, and FGM/c is also a more inclusive term. I think the first explanation is adequate, but again, defer to your preference.

Thanks

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:17 PM
To: Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH) <Stephen.Hayes@hhs.gov>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>; Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) <Beth.Collins-Sharp@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Brief discussion re changing "FGC" to "FGM"

Thanks Stephen. What we need is a statement about why we're changing it. It should say something like:

(b)(5)

From: Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH)
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:10 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>; Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) <Beth.Collins-Sharp@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Brief discussion re changing "FGC" to "FGM"

Hi, all – sharing some language for your review per our conversation last week. This is in response to the point that was made about how ME/CFS language is presented:

(b)(5)

Please let me know if you require any additional information. Thank you!

From: Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 11:05 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>; Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) <Beth.Collins-Sharp@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Brief discussion re changing "FGC" to "FGM"

Hi, everyone – Brooke requested some additional documentation of rationale. Providing that here:

(b)(5)

Hope this is helpful. Thanks!

-Stephen

From: Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH)

Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 12:48 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) <Beth.Collins-Sharp@hhs.gov>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Brief discussion re changing "FGC" to "FGM"

Hi, Brooke – I just wanted to share a recap of our impromptu conversation on Friday for everyone's benefit:

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Please correct me if I'm wrong on any of these points, i didn't have my notebook with me when we chatted so I'm doing this from memory.

Beth and I may be a little late for our 3 o'clock as we'll be across the street at Switzer from 2-3. let me know if you'd rather reschedule.

Thanks!
Stephen

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

Sent: Wednesday, April 4, 2018 8:00 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH); Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)

Subject: Brief discussion re changing "FGC" to "FGM"

When: Monday, April 16, 2018 3:00 PM-3:15 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: OWH Conference Room

<< File: DSC Tech Assist form_FGCandwebsite.pdf >> Thanks Stephen for submitting the DSC request form. We wanted to touch base in person about the request so that we can get it started correctly. Thanks.

Brooke

Sender:	Hayes, Stephen (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=DEA7A1431AE44D91B13720F07C5069CF-HAYES, STEP>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39a84338d5c743fc9cd63a2fdaaefcdb-Bishop-Craw>; Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3162cd18b6fe4e3f894fd7ff80c0e17d-CollinsShar>
Sent Date:	2018/04/23 14:43:01

From:	Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	Re: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review
Date:	2018/05/17 11:12:51
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Brooke, Sounds good. Yes, we will remove the old one when the new PDF is ready.

I'll send the revised PDF file for your review and approval as soon as possible, sometime next week.

Thanks,
Tara.

From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 11:08 AM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>, "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Good question. I don't think it's necessary as long as you can guarantee that the old PDF w/ FGC on it will be permanently removed from the website once the new one is posted.

From: Tara Rodgers [mailto:TRodgers@palladianpartners.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2018 11:06 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Hi Brooke,

Quick question on the updates to the FGM/C PDF: Would you like us to try to fit the statement explaining the change in terminology on the PDF as well as the webpage? Spacing looks tight but I can ask our designers to see what's possible.

Thanks,
Tara.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2928
e: trodgers@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



From: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Date: Friday, May 11, 2018 at 4:17 PM
To: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>, Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>, "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Thanks, Brooke, glad to hear. We'll bundle this update together with Mental Health and the branding updates next week.

We'll also start work on the PDF on Monday and follow up with you to confirm the time frame for publication.

Elizabeth, will you be able to follow up with Pam about the translation? Let us know anything you need from us.

Enjoy the weekend – Brooke, I hope you are feeling better!

-Tara.

From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, May 11, 2018 at 3:24 PM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>, "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Thanks Tara, this looks good. This is approved for publication.

Linking to the Help end violence against women section sounds great.

Can someone let Pam know this is coming down the pike for translation and that Ann approves it? This is important to get through quickly.

When will we be able to post the updated PDF for FGC/M?

Thanks. Hope everyone has a great weekend.

Brooke

From: Tara Rodgers [<mailto:TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 9:46 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Hi Brooke,

The FGM/C updates are ready for your review on staging: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/a-z-topics/female-genital-cutting>

A couple things to note:

- Our developers have implemented the functionality to display the statement directly below the masthead. It will display in that location on both desktop and mobile. Also, we made a minor copy edit to the approved text, making the phrases "female genital cutting" and "female genital mutilation or cutting" lower case to match the style used on the rest of the page.

- The Related information box in the left column currently links to the Relationships and Safety landing page. We have the ability to link to an individual page instead; I'd recommend either 'Effects of violence against women' or 'Help end violence against women' here, as a better fit for related content to FGM/C. What is your preference?

Please let us know any other concerns or if this is approved for publication.

Thanks,
Tara.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2928

e: trodgers@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, May 4, 2018 at 4:17 PM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>, "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Also yes, I think it's best to keep the URL as it is for SEO and search rank.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:37 PM
To: 'Tara Rodgers' <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

On the question “How does FGM/C affect a girl's or woman's health immediately after the cutting?” the last bullet is missing the heading “Death.” that can be seen on the current fact sheet. Can you send this back through proofreading or something? I’m not in the office for the next few days and cannot guarantee that I can attend to this level of proofreading. I need this to be correct the first time we push it live because it’s high profile. I stopped reading the fact sheet at this point so have not reviewed the remainder.

Here are my thoughts on the suggested revisions to the masthead.

Female genital mutilation or cutting (FGM/C), sometimes called female circumcision, means piercing, cutting, removing, or sewing closed all or part of a girl's or woman's external genitals for no medical reason. Researchers estimate more than 513,000 girls and women in the U.S. have experienced or are at risk of FGM/C or are at risk of FGM/C.¹ Worldwide, as many as 140 million girls and women alive today have been cut.² FGM/C is often a part of the culture in countries where it is practiced. But FGM/C has no health benefits and can cause long-term health problems. FGM/C is against the law in the U.S. United States and many other countries.

And knowing that this violates our style guide that says to spell out United States when it’s used as a noun and to abbreviate when it’s used as an adjective. At least I think that’s the rule....

From: Tara Rodgers [<mailto:TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 3:57 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Subject: Re: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Hi Brooke,

The FGM/C updates are ready for your review on staging: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/a-z-topics/female-genital-cutting>

A few things to note:

- We’ve also updated the title in the A-Z topics listing. Would you like “(FGM/C)” to be added there, as we do for other topics with acronyms on that page?
<https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/a-z-topics#f>
- Our thought is to leave the URL unchanged, based on what we know about SEO value of established URLs. Let us know if you have a different preference.
- The additions to the masthead content have created some spacing issues. Here are a few places we might trim — since female circumcision is also addressed in the “What is...” question, and “United States” is spelled out at first mention in the masthead.

Female genital mutilation or cutting (FGM/C), sometimes called female circumcision, means piercing, cutting, removing, or sewing closed all or part of a girl's or woman's external genitals for no medical reason. In the United States, available estimates suggest it is estimated that more than 513,000 girls and women have experienced FGM/C or are at risk of FGM/C.¹ Worldwide, as many as 140 million girls and women alive today have been cut.² FGM/C is often a part of the culture in countries where it is practiced. But FGM/C has no health benefits and can cause long-term health problems. FGM/C is against the law in the U.S. United States and many other countries.

We look forward to your feedback.

Thanks,
Tara.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2928
e: trodgers@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 10:19 AM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>, "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Yes, that would be great to review it in staging. I agree with you about the longer text – that is a function of Jenn having the Program folks figure it out with Nicole's approval, so next time something like this comes up I'll try to insert myself earlier in the process to ensure the shorter option is preferred.

From: Tara Rodgers [<mailto:TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 10:12 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagersharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Subject: Re: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Hi Brooke,

Sure thing – we can definitely do that. Given the amount of text, that wouldn't be our first recommendation; for readability, we generally recommend placing longer passages of text inside the main area of the template rather than in the left nav. But placing it in the left nav is a way to bump the notice a little higher when it stacks on mobile. Shall we set it up in the left nav for your review on staging along with the other changes to the page?

Thanks,
Tara.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2928
e: trodgers@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 10:03 AM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>, Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagersharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>, "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

So it can't be in the left nav like on the CFS/ME fact sheet at <https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/chronic-fatigue-syndrome?>

From: Tara Rodgers [<mailto:TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 10:01 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Hi Brooke,

It would stack at the bottom of the page above the medical reviewer text on both desktop and mobile.

We'll keep you posted as we have a timeline for updating the template. Would you like to proceed with making the updates to the fact sheet, including the approved statement? Let us know as well if there are any next steps for About Us or other pages.

Thanks,
Tara,

From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 9:52 AM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>, "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Your plan sounds good, I appreciate the developers working on the upgrade. If the statement is at the bottom of the page on mobile, will it be in the left nav on desktop?

From: Tara Rodgers [<mailto:TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 9:49 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Hi Brooke,

This placement sounds like a great idea, and it would be nice to have the flexibility to place content under the masthead for other cases like this in the future as well. The current template unfortunately

doesn't allow for this, but we can start work on implementing that functionality. We'll need to confer with our developers about the time frame for implementing this.

If the changes need to be published sooner, we could add the statement at the bottom of the page, above the medical reviewer information, as an interim solution while the template is being revised.

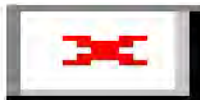
Let us know how you'd like to proceed.

Thanks,
Tara.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

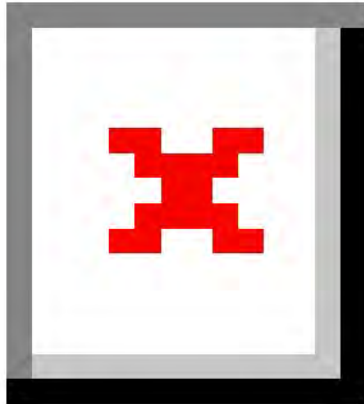
8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
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t: 301.273.2928
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w: www.palladianpartners.com



From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at 6:12 PM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>, "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Here is the approved statement to accompany the changes to the fact sheet. Is there any way the statement can be placed on the page so it goes below the masthead text and before the questions begin so that it's near the top of the page regardless of which view it's in?



Approved statement:

This fact sheet has been updated to include the most current and commonly used terms for Female Genital Cutting (FGC). We are updating the title of this fact sheet and the way we refer to FGC by using the term Female Genital Mutilation or Cutting (FGM/C). FGM/C encompasses any procedure involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. FGM/C is the term used by the departments and agencies in the federal government as part of their response to this harmful practice.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 10:09 AM

To: 'Tara Rodgers' <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Thanks Tara, these edits are approved, but we're still waiting on the corresponding language to explain the name change. Please don't push anything live yet.

From: Tara Rodgers [<mailto:TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2018 10:53 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Hi Brooke,

I'm following up on this request in Sheryl's absence. Please see that attached fact sheet with the requested edits shown in track changes. Please let us know if this works for you to pass forward to the program division, or anything else we can do to support. And keep us posted when you're ready to proceed with the additional updates (About Us, etc.) that you mentioned.

Thanks,
Tara.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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e: trodgers@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 10:04 AM
To: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: Updating FGC text to FGM/C

Hi,

We've had a formal request from our program division who leads our efforts in FGC to update all of the FGC language to the more commonly used "female genital mutilation or cutting" terminology. They said their preferred acronym is FGM/C to accompany it. They'd like to review the marked up plain text fact

sheet changes to reflect this update. We'll also have to update the About Us/Programs and Activities pages and PDF About Us fact sheet, but that can come after. I'd like to get their sign-off and review on the changes to the FGC fact sheet first.

Can you send me the marked up FGC fact sheet with these changes comprehensively made before the end of next week? Thanks.

Brooke

Brooke Leggin, MPH

Web Manager



Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 732F.13, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: brooke.leggin@hhs.gov

Work Hours: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm ET

Main: 202-690-7650 | **Direct:** M, Th, F 202-205-2373 T, W 301-864-2607

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2018/05/17 11:11:51
Delivered Date:	2018/05/17 11:12:51

From:	Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	Re: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review
Date:	2018/05/24 09:34:22
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thank you, Brooke – we'll keep you posted when this is available on the site.

-Tara.

From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 at 9:03 PM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>, "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

This is approved. Thanks.

From: Tara Rodgers [mailto:TRodgers@palladianpartners.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 12:59 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Hi Brooke,

Attached is the updated FGM/C PDF for your review. In addition to updating the term and acronym throughout, we combined paragraphs in the second question on p.1 to fit the content within the new template.

Please let us know any changes or if approved to go live. Our next step after your approval will be to move this into the 508 process; if there are not extensive changes, we are on track to publish this during the first week of June.

Thank you,
Tara.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

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Silver Spring, MD 20910

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e: trodgers@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 11:08 AM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>, "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Good question. I don't think it's necessary as long as you can guarantee that the old PDF w/ FGC on it will be permanently removed from the website once the new one is posted.

From: Tara Rodgers [<mailto:TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2018 11:06 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Hi Brooke,

Quick question on the updates to the FGM/C PDF: Would you like us to try to fit the statement explaining the change in terminology on the PDF as well as the webpage? Spacing looks tight but I can ask our designers to see what's possible.

Thanks,
Tara.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2928
e: trodgers@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



From: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Date: Friday, May 11, 2018 at 4:17 PM
To: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>, Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>, "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Thanks, Brooke, glad to hear. We'll bundle this update together with Mental Health and the branding updates next week.

We'll also start work on the PDF on Monday and follow up with you to confirm the time frame for publication.

Elizabeth, will you be able to follow up with Pam about the translation? Let us know anything you need from us.

Enjoy the weekend – Brooke, I hope you are feeling better!

-Tara.

From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, May 11, 2018 at 3:24 PM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>, "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Thanks Tara, this looks good. This is approved for publication.

Linking to the Help end violence against women section sounds great.

Can someone let Pam know this is coming down the pike for translation and that Ann approves it? This is important to get through quickly.

When will we be able to post the updated PDF for FGC/M?

Thanks. Hope everyone has a great weekend.

Brooke

From: Tara Rodgers [<mailto:TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 9:46 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Hi Brooke,

The FGM/C updates are ready for your review on staging: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/a-z-topics/female-genital-cutting>

A couple things to note:

- Our developers have implemented the functionality to display the statement directly below the masthead. It will display in that location on both desktop and mobile. Also, we made a minor copy edit to the approved text, making the phrases "female genital cutting" and "female genital mutilation or cutting" lower case to match the style used on the rest of the page.

- The Related information box in the left column currently links to the Relationships and Safety landing page. We have the ability to link to an individual page instead; I'd recommend either 'Effects of violence against women' or 'Help end violence against women' here, as a better fit for related content to FGM/C. What is your preference?

Please let us know any other concerns or if this is approved for publication.

Thanks,
Tara.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2928

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w: www.palladianpartners.com



From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, May 4, 2018 at 4:17 PM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>, "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Also yes, I think it's best to keep the URL as it is for SEO and search rank.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:37 PM
To: 'Tara Rodgers' <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

On the question “How does FGM/C affect a girl's or woman's health immediately after the cutting?” the last bullet is missing the heading “Death.” that can be seen on the current fact sheet. Can you send this back through proofreading or something? I’m not in the office for the next few days and cannot guarantee that I can attend to this level of proofreading. I need this to be correct the first time we push it live because it’s high profile. I stopped reading the fact sheet at this point so have not reviewed the remainder.

Here are my thoughts on the suggested revisions to the masthead.

Female genital mutilation or cutting (FGM/C), sometimes called female circumcision, means piercing, cutting, removing, or sewing closed all or part of a girl's or woman's external genitals for no medical reason. Researchers estimate more than 513,000 girls and women in the U.S. have experienced or are at risk of FGM/C or are at risk of FGM/C.¹ Worldwide, as many as 140 million girls and women alive today have been cut.² FGM/C is often a part of the culture in countries where it is practiced. But FGM/C has no health benefits and can cause long-term health problems. FGM/C is against the law in the U.S. United States and many other countries.

And knowing that this violates our style guide that says to spell out United States when it’s used as a noun and to abbreviate when it’s used as an adjective. At least I think that’s the rule....

From: Tara Rodgers [<mailto:TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 3:57 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Subject: Re: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Hi Brooke,

The FGM/C updates are ready for your review on staging: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/a-z-topics/female-genital-cutting>

A few things to note:

- We’ve also updated the title in the A-Z topics listing. Would you like “(FGM/C)” to be added there, as we do for other topics with acronyms on that page?
<https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/a-z-topics#f>
- Our thought is to leave the URL unchanged, based on what we know about SEO value of established URLs. Let us know if you have a different preference.
- The additions to the masthead content have created some spacing issues. Here are a few places we might trim — since female circumcision is also addressed in the “What is...” question, and “United States” is spelled out at first mention in the masthead.

Female genital mutilation or cutting (FGM/C), sometimes called female circumcision, means piercing, cutting, removing, or sewing closed all or part of a girl's or woman's external genitals for no medical reason. In the United States, available estimates suggest it is estimated that more than 513,000 girls and women have experienced FGM/C or are at risk of FGM/C.¹ Worldwide, as many as 140 million girls and women alive today have been cut.² FGM/C is often a part of the culture in countries where it is practiced. But FGM/C has no health benefits and can cause long-term health problems. FGM/C is against the law in the U.S. United States and many other countries.

We look forward to your feedback.

Thanks,
Tara.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2928
e: trodgers@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 10:19 AM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>, "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Yes, that would be great to review it in staging. I agree with you about the longer text – that is a function of Jenn having the Program folks figure it out with Nicole's approval, so next time something like this comes up I'll try to insert myself earlier in the process to ensure the shorter option is preferred.

From: Tara Rodgers [<mailto:TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 10:12 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Subject: Re: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Hi Brooke,

Sure thing – we can definitely do that. Given the amount of text, that wouldn't be our first recommendation; for readability, we generally recommend placing longer passages of text inside the main area of the template rather than in the left nav. But placing it in the left nav is a way to bump the notice a little higher when it stacks on mobile. Shall we set it up in the left nav for your review on staging along with the other changes to the page?

Thanks,
Tara.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2928
e: trodgers@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 10:03 AM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>, "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

So it can't be in the left nav like on the CFS/ME fact sheet at <https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/chronic-fatigue-syndrome?>

From: Tara Rodgers [<mailto:TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 10:01 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Hi Brooke,

It would stack at the bottom of the page above the medical reviewer text on both desktop and mobile.

We'll keep you posted as we have a timeline for updating the template. Would you like to proceed with making the updates to the fact sheet, including the approved statement? Let us know as well if there are any next steps for About Us or other pages.

Thanks,
Tara.

From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 9:52 AM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>, "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Your plan sounds good, I appreciate the developers working on the upgrade. If the statement is at the bottom of the page on mobile, will it be in the left nav on desktop?

From: Tara Rodgers [<mailto:TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 9:49 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Hi Brooke,

This placement sounds like a great idea, and it would be nice to have the flexibility to place content under the masthead for other cases like this in the future as well. The current template unfortunately

doesn't allow for this, but we can start work on implementing that functionality. We'll need to confer with our developers about the time frame for implementing this.

If the changes need to be published sooner, we could add the statement at the bottom of the page, above the medical reviewer information, as an interim solution while the template is being revised.

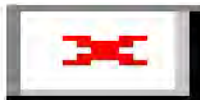
Let us know how you'd like to proceed.

Thanks,
Tara.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

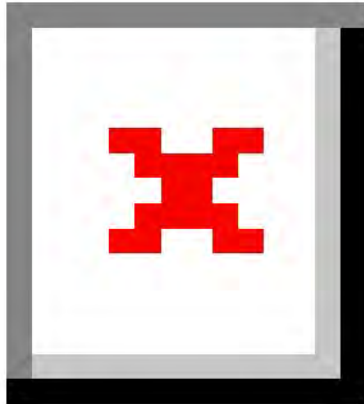
8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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w: www.palladianpartners.com



From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at 6:12 PM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>, "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Here is the approved statement to accompany the changes to the fact sheet. Is there any way the statement can be placed on the page so it goes below the masthead text and before the questions begin so that it's near the top of the page regardless of which view it's in?



Approved statement:

This fact sheet has been updated to include the most current and commonly used terms for Female Genital Cutting (FGC). We are updating the title of this fact sheet and the way we refer to FGC by using the term Female Genital Mutilation or Cutting (FGM/C). FGM/C encompasses any procedure involving partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. FGM/C is the term used by the departments and agencies in the federal government as part of their response to this harmful practice.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

Sent: Friday, April 27, 2018 10:09 AM

To: 'Tara Rodgers' <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Thanks Tara, these edits are approved, but we're still waiting on the corresponding language to explain the name change. Please don't push anything live yet.

From: Tara Rodgers [<mailto:TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2018 10:53 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: Updating FGC text to FGM/C - for review

Hi Brooke,

I'm following up on this request in Sheryl's absence. Please see that attached fact sheet with the requested edits shown in track changes. Please let us know if this works for you to pass forward to the program division, or anything else we can do to support. And keep us posted when you're ready to proceed with the additional updates (About Us, etc.) that you mentioned.

Thanks,
Tara.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2928
e: trodgers@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 10:04 AM
To: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: Updating FGC text to FGM/C

Hi,

We've had a formal request from our program division who leads our efforts in FGC to update all of the FGC language to the more commonly used "female genital mutilation or cutting" terminology. They said their preferred acronym is FGM/C to accompany it. They'd like to review the marked up plain text fact

sheet changes to reflect this update. We'll also have to update the About Us/Programs and Activities pages and PDF About Us fact sheet, but that can come after. I'd like to get their sign-off and review on the changes to the FGC fact sheet first.

Can you send me the marked up FGC fact sheet with these changes comprehensively made before the end of next week? Thanks.

Brooke

Brooke Leggin, MPH

Web Manager



Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 732F.13, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: brooke.leggin@hhs.gov

Work Hours: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm ET

Main: 202-690-7650 | **Direct:** M, Th, F 202-205-2373 T, W 301-864-2607

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2018/05/24 09:27:45
Delivered Date:	2018/05/24 09:34:22

From:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
To:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: NWHW Website Review Links
Date:	2018/04/20 10:16:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Great! I'll check with the social media team to see if we can start scheduling social media messages, too. Thanks for all your help!!

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 10:14 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Fine with me too.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 10:13 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Sounds good to me, so that the winner will be sent prior to 5:00pm on a Friday ☺

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 10:11 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

If everything looks good to you, should we get the e-blasts out? Thanks!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 9:31 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Yay! Go Team!

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 9:28 AM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Thank you.

It's live.

Me

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 5:26 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Hi Jill,

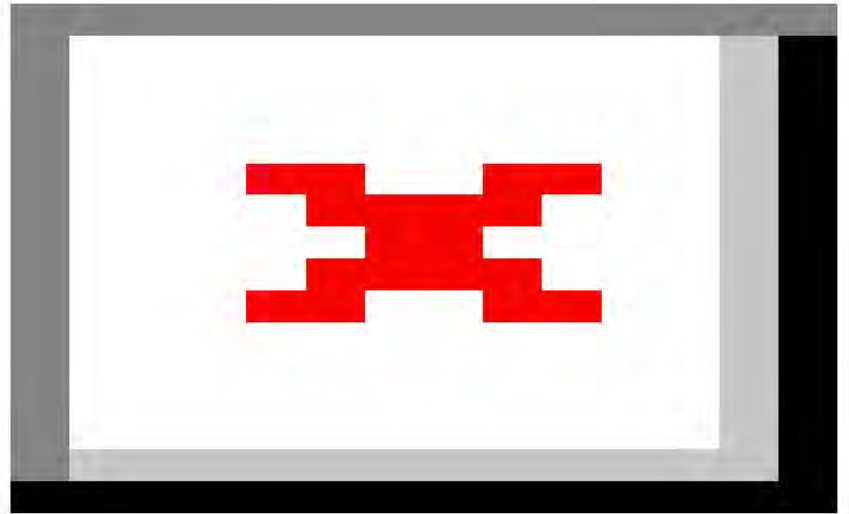
The fonts and spacing are the same across browsers. Chuck explained that different browsers render fonts differently, which might make them appear larger in some cases. However, the font size is defined independently of which browser is being used. IE in particular does weird things that make it nearly impossible to make anything in it look the same as it does in other browsers, and there's just not much we can do about it after a certain point.

Also, the font used for the quiz questions matches the rest of the site. It's just bigger.

We'll move forward with publishing the site. We expect to have it up and running first thing in the morning. I'll keep you in the loop!

Thanks!
Alli

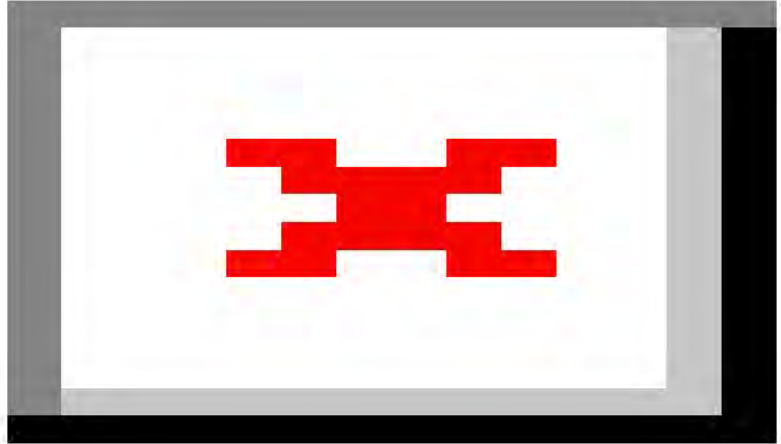
From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 4:56 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links



cid:image002.png@01D3D801.DA48B000

This—above-- is Internet Explorer. See how disclaimer looks spaced differently?

It looks fine on Google Chrome:



cid:image004.png@01D3D801.DA48B000

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 4:24 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Hi! Yes, the icons were removed, and the fact sheets are now visible.

As for the partner/ambassador pages, will you please send me a screenshot and let me know what browser and version you're using? They look the same on my computer.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 4:21 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

It's me again.

I see that the old checklists were removed—in regard to my questions to the 1st bullet.

But one last item: The disclaimers on partner and ambassador pages seem spaced differently and/or maybe a different size font...will you make sure they appear the same in size and spacing as text about them, please?

When that is done and fact sheet placed back on, I would like to go live for tonight or tomorrow morning. Pretty please.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 4:12 PM
To: 'Allison Hall-Jordan' <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Hi Alli –

See below in red.

Jill

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 3:15 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Hi Jill,

We've completed making the requested changes, including the following:

- Removed the preventing falls bullets from the 60s through 90s pages **Great and did we remove the yucky checklists until we get the pretty PDFs for each decade?**
- Hide the fact sheet (and I'm waiting to hear how long it'll take to make the change) **Hmmm, we said to keep the fact sheet up in left side of page//left navigation WHILE you make the minor change...then switch it out next week.**
- Updated the quiz line **Great**

Full site: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw>
Quiz link: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/quiz>

Did I miss anything?

Thanks,
Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 10:54 AM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: FW: NWHW Website Review Links

Please remove it entirely -- Preventing falls with vitamin D and exercise -- in 60s, 70, 80s, and 90s, as Brooke recommends and I agree.

It's ironic b/c Valerie just sent me her quick review of website and said this: *In the section Talk to My Doctor for ages 60+ section: It's not clear to me how one prevents falls with vitamin D.*

I guess it's good that we remove it for that reason too. LOL.

Jill

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 3:24 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

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This is the language from USPSTF:

Conclusions and Recommendation The USPSTF concludes that the current evidence is insufficient to assess the balance of the benefits and harms of vitamin D and calcium supplementation, alone or combined, for the primary prevention of fractures in community-dwelling, asymptomatic men and premenopausal women. (I statement) The USPSTF concludes that the current evidence is insufficient to assess the balance of the benefits and harms of daily supplementation with doses greater than 400 IU of vitamin D and greater than 1000 mg of calcium for the primary prevention of fractures in community-dwelling, postmenopausal women. (I statement) The USPSTF recommends against daily supplementation with 400 IU or less of vitamin D and 1000 mg or less of calcium for the primary prevention of fractures in community-dwelling, postmenopausal women. (D recommendation) These recommendations do not apply to persons with a history of osteoporotic fractures, increased risk for falls, or a diagnosis of osteoporosis or vitamin D deficiency.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 3:20 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Hi Jill,

Thanks for your feedback! We've added #NWHW to the "Share your best health advice" box, and we'll plan on adding the fact sheet to the about page. That's a good idea! It's looking like we'll have the fact sheet up by the end of the week.

Also, the health writing team noticed that [USPSTF issued a statement](#) yesterday that says it no longer recommends the use of vitamin D to prevent falls. The only place where this is referenced on womenshealth.gov is in the NWHW content. It's under the "Every day I will try to" sections of the 60s, 70s, 80s, and 90s pages. We recommend changing the bullet to say: "Talk to my doctor at least once a year about... Ways to prevent falls." Whatever change we make to the website, we will make the corresponding page to the PDFs for these decades. Please let us know what you think.

Thanks!
Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 2:06 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Hi Alli –

1. • <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/tools/social-media>

Can we add #NWHW after the #WhatIWishIdKnown? If that is OK social media etiquette, we need to make sure we are consistent in our other content and materials where this comes up (e.g., toolkit).

Share your best health advice.

We're asking women to share their wisdom with women of other generations. No matter your age, you can share valuable health lessons and inspire others to take actionable steps to improve their current and future health. Share your "What I wish I'd known" story on social media using **#WhatIWishIdKnown #NWHW**

2. • <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/about> I'd like to be able to click on the NWHW fact sheet from this page. Doesn't that make good sense?

Once these two items are discussed and taken care of, I think we are good to go on going live.

We meet with Tara tomorrow so I plan to ask about the quiz—might go to her office before our meeting to ask.

Items that you are aware that we need to get into SCP:

1. • Printer-friendly PDFs for each decade –once done and in SCP, those can go live.
2. • Infocards, etc. for social media.

Thanks,

Me

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 10:46 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

- We removed all mentions of the quiz from the site, including from the left nav. We can easily add them back in once it's approved.
- We uploaded the approved social media language, but we're still waiting on the Thunderclap link. When mentioned, you'll see that there either isn't a link or it links to the old Thunderclap page. Once we get approval on the CTP from Ann, we can create the 2018 Thunderclap and upload the new link.
- The quiz has its own review link.
- We're still working on share buttons for the quiz. They'll end up looking a lot like the share buttons on the blog.
- Please note that the quiz disclaimer is beneath the quiz, per your request.

Review link: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw>

Quiz link: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/quiz/>

ALLISON HALL-JORDAN

Account Supervisor

1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
D 202.706.7439



cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226

Sender:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Recipient:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/04/20 10:14:44
Delivered Date:	2018/04/20 10:16:00

From:	Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagersharp.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer (EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com) <edammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Subject:	Re: OWH About Us Fact Sheet Question
Date:	2018/04/03 12:10:21
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thanks Brooke. We just want to to get the translation process started. We will not upload it until the English version is.

Best,
Pam Nieto

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <brooke.leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 11:57 AM
Subject: RE: OWH About Us Fact Sheet Question
To: Pam Nieto <pnieto@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <ann.abercrombie@hhs.gov>, Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>, Emily Dammeyer (EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com) <edammeyer@palladianpartners.com>

Hi Pam,

The About Us fact sheet has been updated and cleared in English, but not posted to the wh.gov website yet. Please work with the Palladian team to obtain the final version in English (that should be posted to the website any day now). I don't know what the specific timing is on that. I don't want the Spanish version to go live before the English version. If the Spanish version goes live after the English version that's fine, but not before. At the same time is fine too.

THanks.
Brooke

From: Pam Nieto [mailto:PNieto@hagersharp.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2018 11:48 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: OWH About Us Fact Sheet Question

Hi Brooke,

We are about to translate the About Us fact sheet and Ann wanted me to check-in with you first to make sure you don't have any additional edits. The version attached, which is not 508 compliant yet, is from March 12, 2018. Please confirm at your earliest convenience that the content in this version is final.

Thanks,
Pam

Sender:	Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagersharp.com>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer (EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com) <edammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Sent Date:	2018/04/03 12:09:52
Delivered Date:	2018/04/03 12:10:21

From:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
To:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
CC:	Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: NHHW Website Review Links
Date:	2018/04/19 15:15:46
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Jill,

We've completed making the requested changes, including the following:

- Removed the preventing falls bullets from the 60s through 90s pages
- Hide the fact sheet (and I'm waiting to hear how long it'll take to make the change)
- Updated the quiz line

Full site: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw>

Quiz link: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/quiz>

Did I miss anything?

Thanks,
Alli

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Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
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To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Phenix,

Adrianne (HHS/OASH) <Adrianne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

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Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 10:46 AM

To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>

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Quiz link: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/quiz/>

ALLISON HALL-JORDAN

Account Supervisor

1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
D 202.706.7439



cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226

Sender:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Recipient:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/04/19 15:15:07
Delivered Date:	2018/04/19 15:15:46

From:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
To:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
CC:	Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs
Date:	2018/04/17 15:54:18
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Jill,

Great news! Glad that #6 will work. I will get back to you soon on turnaround time, and I should have an updated 30s PDF you can send through clearance soon.

Thanks for flagging those edits. I apologize if this wasn't clear in my email below, but we haven't proofed these yet or incorporated content changes made to the about and fact sheet pages since we started the design process. We've been focused developing the design, but now that we have a winner, we'll move on to proofing and designing the rest of the decades. I'll get back to you soon with a timing estimate.

Thanks,
Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 3:25 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Hi Alli –

#6 is the winner—clearly marked in attached with requested changes.

Please let me know when you think they all will be done and ready to go online.

I would like to place the “In Your 30’s” into SCP so please send me this one when complete.

TY,

Jill

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 2:27 PM
To: 'Allison Hall-Jordan' <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) (Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs
Importance: High

Hi Alli –

Please note that there are some mistakes on these PDFs:

- 2nd sentence: Celebrated May 13- through May 19,.....build positive health habits for life.
- 3rd sentence: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office

I'll let you know before COB today or earlier what we picked.

Jill

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 1:22 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Here you go! It's on page 8.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 12:53 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

May I also have the checklist page? Please?

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 11:11 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Hi Jill and Brooke,

Attached please find design options for the ages and stages fact sheets for your review. All three options include the 20s–90s thumbnails and half circles. However, a few of them also include a larger version of

the 30-something woman. The designers thought her image would make it easier for women to understand the intended audience for each specific fact sheet.

Please let us know which design you like the best and then we'll move forward with creating all of the decades. Please note, this hasn't been proofed, and we're just looking for feedback on the design.

Thanks, and please let me know if you have any questions.
Alli

From: Allison Hall-Jordan
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 3:01 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

This helps, thanks! I'll share this feedback with the designers and will get back to you.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 3:00 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
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Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Whatever the designers think is best and will help people make the connection between the PDF and the website should they come across the PDF and then decide to visit the website. It should look the same as much as possible for a hard copy product based on a website.

So I'd prefer the half circles b/c that's what on the website. But if that's not graphically possible then we're open to other options.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 2:54 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Patricia Nicastrì; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

So not necessarily the half circles, but we should show that each woman goes with a decade?

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 2:50 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Yes, but also with the age decades on top of the image, like they are on the website, so that when someone picks up a specific age PDF they can realize that there are other ages available.....without us having to say that explicitly on the PDF. Also, this solves the need for a diverse image.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 2:48 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Patricia Nicastrì; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Thanks for your feedback, Jill and Brooke!

To make sure I pass on the correct guidance, you'd like to see a version that includes the images of the women on the steps for better health by age page, and they should appear below the one column of text. Is that correct?

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 2:44 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

We like the one column, no image.

Brooke and I thought since there's so much white space, why not graphically represent all the ages (which also include races/ethnicities) from the website: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/nwhw/by-age> somewhere along the bottom--we leave this up to the designers. So, there would be images with diversity and ppl will understand that other ages exist.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 9:38 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Patricia Nicastrì; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

I'm fine with this and leave the image/no image option up to Jill. I'm in favor of an image because I think it makes the piece more engaging, but I am NOT in favor of the image included here because this piece needs to stand alone as a PDF/printed product, even at the same time the branding/look-and-feel should fit in with the website. And as a stand-alone piece that image excludes people, even though I know as a GROUP the images are diverse and more inclusive.

So I would vote for an image that includes a diverse group of women, rather than just the one woman.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 5:30 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Patricia Nicastrì; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Hi Jill and Brooke,

Attached please find three design options for the first page of the ages and stages PDFs. Based on your direction, we modeled it off of the [NWHW fact sheet](#), and we didn't modify the checklist page, as you liked that design. Also, we didn't proof this copy, we're just looking for your thoughts on the design/layout. Below is a breakdown of the three options:

Page 1:

- • Two column layout
- • No image

Page 2:

- • Two column layout
- • Includes an image (Jill, I know you said no image, but as we were using the same look and feel as the fact sheet, I thought we should show you what it looks like with an image.)

Page 3

- • One column layout
- • Includes an image

Please let us know your thoughts! Once we settle on a design, we'll create PDFs for every decade. Each decade will match the decade color on the website. Looking forward to your feedback.

Thanks!
Alli

From: Allison Hall-Jordan
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2018 1:52 PM
To: 'Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)' <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; 'Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)' <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Hi Brooke and Jill,

I just wanted to give you an update on the ages and stages PDF. We expect to have a designed example for you to review by the middle of next week.

Thanks!
Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 8:54 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Yes, thank you all.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2018 11:51 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Perfect, thank you!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2018 10:48 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

I think it's fine to include the current dates.

For the older ages I prefer the phrasing "...the week is a time for women to make small changes for better health." Without the ending that was proposed in the draft.

Thanks!

Brooke

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2018 10:29 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Hi Brooke,

We have two questions flagged for you in the attached. You'll find them on pages one and four. Please let me know what you think, and then I'll move this into design.

Thanks for reviewing, Jill!

Thanks,
Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2018 7:45 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Hi Alli –

Please consult with Brooke if you have any final questions.

Thanks,

Jill

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 3:41 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Sorry to be unclear! I was just asking whether you had any initial thoughts on the copy for the ages and stages checklist PDFs (attached for reference). But I'm happy to talk tomorrow morning. Is there a time that works well for you?

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 3:33 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Hi Alli –

I was confused by this ask. Maybe we can discuss tomorrow morning?

Jill

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 1:56 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Hi Brooke and Jill,

I know you didn't get the PDF copy until late last week, but I wanted to check in and see if you had any initial thoughts on the language. We're more than happy to make changes, please just let us know.

If possible, we'd like to move this into design late this week or early next week.

Thanks!

Alli

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 10:23 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Gotcha, yes, thank you ☺

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 10:22 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

It'll be a two-page document. The first page will feature the text from the word doc, which sets up the checklist on the second page/back. Does that help?

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 10:03 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Sorry – I'm scattered – how does the Word doc fit in with the PDF? The Word doc text will become the front and the PDF page is the back?

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2018 5:51 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Hi Jill and Brooke,

We drafted revised copy to set up the decade-specific checklists based on your initial feedback. Our goal was to make this a standalone product that is directly tied to NWHW. We used the copy from the approved About page and Steps for better health pages. As we discussed with Jill, we didn't include all of the copy from the Steps for better health pages, but you'll see that we ended up cutting even more than previously discussed. It was starting to feel like we were too focused on the well-woman visit and not enough on setting up the checklist. The designed checklist, or page 2 of the document, is attached as a reference. Please note that we tweaked the copy for the 60s, 70s, 80s, and 90s to reflect what's on the website.

Please take a look at the attached and let us know what you think—we're more than happy to revise this based on your feedback. Also, this hasn't been proofed yet. We'll do that once we incorporate your feedback/changes.

Please let me know if it's easier to talk through your thoughts by phone.

Thanks so much!
Alli

ALLISON HALL-JORDAN
Account Supervisor

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WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
D 202.706.7439



cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226

Sender:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Recipient:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>; Patricia Nicastri <PNicastri@HagerSharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/04/17 15:53:30
Delivered Date:	2018/04/17 15:54:18

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Mini promotion?
Date:	2018/05/25 09:34:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

The newest Spanish language content seems to be these:

Translate the following content areas, factsheets, and PDFs:

- Insomnia PDF and fact sheet ✓
- Asthma PDF and fact sheet ✓
- Oral health PDF and fact sheet ✓
- Make the Call module ✓

But by metrics/popularity you'd have to ask Palladian....

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, May 25, 2018 9:12 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Mini promotion?

Ok, thanks- that's helpful!
Is there any other Spanish content that you'd like to promote?

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, May 25, 2018 9:02 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Mini promotion?

Sounds good, except the pregnancy content. That content they want to promote in Spanish is OLD. The new content is somewhere in the review process, I can't remember where, I think I'm waiting for Sayeedha to review it and haven't given it to her yet.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, May 25, 2018 9:00 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Subject: FW: Mini promotion?

Hi Brooke,

Here are the new or recently translated fact sheets that HS recommends we promote with ads. Let me know what you think and if we should add others.

- Urinary tract infections (English)
- Bladder pain (English)
- Asthma (English)
- Menstrual cycle (Spanish)
 - Period problems
 - What happens during the typical 28-day menstrual cycle (specifically the How often you should change your tampon or pad? section)
- Pregnancy (Spanish)
 - You're pregnant: Now what?

Candace

From: Allyson Harkey [<mailto:AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>]

Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2018 7:18 PM

To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Cc: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: RE: Mini promotion?

Candace and Adrienne,

Thanks so much for getting on the phone with me today. Here are some ideas for this mini-promotion. Please feel free to choose the ones that you'd like me to move forward with:

Google Search Ads

I would promote some recently updated and/or translated fact sheets. I think any of these would be useful for women searching online for information around common issues:

- Urinary tract infections (English)
- Bladder pain (English)
- Asthma (English)
- Menstrual cycle (Spanish)
 - Period problems
 - What happens during the typical 28-day menstrual cycle (specifically the How often you should change your tampon or pad? section)
- Pregnancy (Spanish)
 - You're pregnant: Now what?

Twitter Ads

I would switch back to Twitter for the Printables and Shareables ads. It'll help avoid any fatigue from the audience having seen the recent NWHW ads. I also think the content can be freshened up by:

1. • Using Twitter's website cards. There are two ways to set up these simple text-link kinds of ads on Twitter: Using an image with text on it, like we did for the old ads ("Old ad example" attached) OR using the website cards we've been using for more recent campaigns, where it looks more like a thumbnail with a link ("New ad example" attached). The fastest way to get these running is to use option B, and we've seen good results with those.
2. • Using the same copy but changing the images. This will also help with any audience fatigue, I think more than keeping the images and changing the copy. Here are some images I think might be good:
[Image 1](#)
[Image 2](#)
[Image 3](#)

I'm out of the office tomorrow but will be checking email and can purchase images/get these started while I'm gone, if you like any of these ideas. Otherwise, I'll be back in on Tuesday.

Thanks and have a great holiday!
Allyson

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 2:20 PM
To: Allyson Harkey <AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>
Cc: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Mini promotion?

Let's try 12. I spoke too soon about having my afternoon free. LOL

From: Allyson Harkey [<mailto:AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 2:06 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Cc: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Mini promotion?

Great! I am in meetings until 4pm today, so let's hop on the phone tomorrow. I'm free 12-1 and 2-7, so feel free to pick any time in there.

Quick question: If we use the P&S infocards but with new images, do you think they'd need to go through clearance again?

Thanks,
Allyson

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 9:23 AM

To: Allyson Harkey <AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>
Cc: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Mini promotion?

I think this is a great idea as long as Ann approves. Do you have time to chat about this today or tomorrow?

The infocards from the Printable and Shareables have already been cleared through SCP so we can easily move forward with launching P&S ads. Since we launched them last year and most recently for NWHW, I really like to create some new graphics.

My schedule is pretty flexible on both days so let me know what works for you.

Candace

Candace Marshall, MPH
Health Communications Specialist



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201
Email: Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov
Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-690-5414
Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

From: Allyson Harkey [<mailto:AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2018 5:54 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Cc: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: Mini promotion?

Hey, Candace,

I was thinking about all of the fact sheets we've updated over the last couple of years that aren't tied to a particular observance or module and so haven't been promoted. I was also thinking about the funds in my

Task 6 budget that were set aside for GH.gov promotion and are going unused. And I wondered: Would you like to do a mini promotion for some of those fact sheets using those GH.gov funds? I'm thinking:

- Digital ads only (Facebook/Instagram, Twitter, and Google)
- Quick but intense
 - Launch as soon as we can, end before the June 14 contract year end
 - \$10,000 budget
- English and Spanish, promoting the most recently updated fact sheets in both languages

Of course this would only work if 1) you want to do it and 2) the promo plan for it doesn't get tied up in clearance.

If you do want to do it, but you don't think clearance will be quick enough to be worth it, we have another option: Replay the Printables & Shareables ads we currently have up for NWHW, just without the NWHW logos.

What do you think?

Thanks,
Allyson

ALLYSON HARKEY

Digital Content Specialist/Digital Strategist

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cid:image002.png@01D08199.BE6E6670

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2018/05/25 09:34:38
Delivered Date:	2018/05/25 09:34:00

From:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	FW: NWHW Website Review Links
Date:	2018/04/18 15:23:20
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Your input on the USPSTF...please. Feel free to reply all or just me.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 3:20 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Hi Jill,

Thanks for your feedback! We've added #NWHW to the "Share your best health advice" box, and we'll plan on adding the fact sheet to the about page. That's a good idea! It's looking like we'll have the fact sheet up by the end of the week.

Also, the health writing team noticed that [USPSTF issued a statement](#) yesterday that says it no longer recommends the use of vitamin D to prevent falls. The only place where this is referenced on womenshealth.gov is in the NWHW content. It's under the "Every day I will try to" sections of the 60s, 70s, 80s, and 90s pages. We recommend changing the bullet to say: "Talk to my doctor at least once a year about... Ways to prevent falls." Whatever change we make to the website, we will make the corresponding page to the PDFs for these decades. Please let us know what you think.

Thanks!
Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 2:06 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Hi Alli –

1. • <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/tools/social-media>

Can we add #NWHW after the #WhatIWishIdKnown? If that is OK social media etiquette, we need to make sure we are consistent in our other content and materials where this comes up (e.g., toolkit).

Share your best health advice.

We're asking women to share their wisdom with women of other generations. No matter your age, you can share valuable health lessons and inspire others to take actionable steps to improve their current and future health. Share your "What I wish I'd known" story on social media using **#WhatIWishIdKnown #NWHW**

2. • <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/about> I'd like to be able to click on the NWHW fact sheet from this page. Doesn't that make good sense?

Once these two items are discussed and taken care of, I think we are good to go on going live.

We meet with Tara tomorrow so I plan to ask about the quiz—might go to her office before our meeting to ask.

Items that you are aware that we need to get into SCP:

- (1) Printer-friendly PDFs for each decade –once done and in SCP, those can go live.
- (2) Infocards, etc. for social media.

Thanks,

Me

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]

Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 10:46 AM

To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

- • We removed all mentions of the quiz from the site, including from the left nav. We can easily add them back in once it's approved.
- • We uploaded the approved social media language, but we're still waiting on the Thunderclap link. When mentioned, you'll see that there either isn't a link or it links to the old Thunderclap page. Once we get approval on the CTP from Ann, we can create the 2018 Thunderclap and upload the new link.
- • The quiz has its own review link.
- • We're still working on share buttons for the quiz. They'll end up looking a lot like the share buttons on the blog.
- • Please note that the quiz disclaimer is beneath the quiz, per your request.

Review link: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw>

Quiz link: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/quiz/>

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D 202.706.7439





cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226


Sender:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/04/18 15:23:19
Delivered Date:	2018/04/18 15:23:20


From:	National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health <NCCIH@public.govdelivery.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	Evaluating Online Resources
Date:	2018/05/22 09:01:19
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

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Know the Science

NIH National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health banner image



Evaluating Online
Resources

Older woman and younger woman looking at tablet

Many people turn to websites, social media, and mobile apps for information about complementary and integrative health approaches, but not all of these sources are trustworthy. Although some are useful, others may be inaccurate or misleading.

NCCIH has a fact sheet on online health resources that can guide you through the maze of online health information. Our fact sheet:

- Provides a list of quick questions to ask when checking out online health resources
- Explains how to verify that social media accounts are what they claim to be
- Suggests key things to keep in mind when using a mobile health app.

The fact sheet also provides links to some excellent sources of online health information, including [MedlinePlus](#), [healthfinder.gov](#), the [Office of Dietary Supplements website](#), and [NCCIH's website](#).

Find out more

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Sender:	National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health <NCCIH@public.govdelivery.com>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/05/22 09:00:46
Delivered Date:	2018/05/22 09:01:19

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
CC:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ac73a58ee24044bc98c4dd74e24d8740-Phenix, Adr>
Subject:	RE: NWHW Website Review Links
Date:	2018/04/18 16:18:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Yes, the USPSTF published their recommendation in JAMA and that's what Alli linked to and that's where the language below comes from...

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 4:14 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Agree.

I think there was a JAMA article on calcium supplements that supports all of this.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 3:24 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

From a health writing perspective I would just recommend deleting that bullet entirely since there isn't another source of the fall information.

This is the language from USPSTF:

Conclusions and Recommendation The USPSTF concludes that the current evidence is insufficient to assess the balance of the benefits and harms of vitamin D and calcium supplementation, alone or combined, for the primary prevention of fractures in community-dwelling, asymptomatic men and premenopausal women. (I statement) The USPSTF concludes that the current evidence is insufficient to assess the balance of the benefits and harms of daily supplementation with doses greater than 400 IU of vitamin D and greater than 1000 mg of calcium for the primary prevention of fractures in community-dwelling, postmenopausal women. (I statement) The USPSTF recommends against daily supplementation with 400 IU or less of vitamin D and 1000 mg or less of calcium for the primary

prevention of fractures in community-dwelling, postmenopausal women. (D recommendation) These recommendations do not apply to persons with a history of osteoporotic fractures, increased risk for falls, or a diagnosis of osteoporosis or vitamin D deficiency.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 3:20 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrianne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Hi Jill,

Thanks for your feedback! We've added #NWHW to the "Share your best health advice" box, and we'll plan on adding the fact sheet to the about page. That's a good idea! It's looking like we'll have the fact sheet up by the end of the week.

Also, the health writing team noticed that [USPSTF issued a statement](#) yesterday that says it no longer recommends the use of vitamin D to prevent falls. The only place where this is referenced on womenshealth.gov is in the NWHW content. It's under the "Every day I will try to" sections of the 60s, 70s, 80s, and 90s pages. We recommend changing the bullet to say: "Talk to my doctor at least once a year about... Ways to prevent falls." Whatever change we make to the website, we will make the corresponding page to the PDFs for these decades. Please let us know what you think.

Thanks!
Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 18, 2018 2:06 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrianne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

Hi Alli –

1. • <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/tools/social-media>

Can we add #NWHW after the #WhatIWishIdKnown? If that is OK social media etiquette, we need to make sure we are consistent in our other content and materials where this comes up (e.g., toolkit).

Share your best health advice.

We're asking women to share their wisdom with women of other generations. No matter your age, you can share valuable health lessons and inspire others to take actionable steps to improve their current and future health. Share your "What I wish I'd known" story on social media using **#WhatIWishIdKnown #NWHW**

2. • <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/about> I'd like to be able to click on the NWHW fact sheet from this page. Doesn't that make good sense?

Once these two items are discussed and taken care of, I think we are good to go on going live.

We meet with Tara tomorrow so I plan to ask about the quiz—might go to her office before our meeting to ask.

Items that you are aware that we need to get into SCP:

- (1) Printer-friendly PDFs for each decade—once done and in SCP, those can go live.
- (2) Infocards, etc. for social media.

Thanks,

Me

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]

Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 10:46 AM

To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

- • We removed all mentions of the quiz from the site, including from the left nav. We can easily add them back in once it's approved.
- • We uploaded the approved social media language, but we're still waiting on the Thunderclap link. When mentioned, you'll see that there either isn't a link or it links to the old Thunderclap page. Once we get approval on the CTP from Ann, we can create the 2018 Thunderclap and upload the new link.
- • The quiz has its own review link.
- • We're still working on share buttons for the quiz. They'll end up looking a lot like the share buttons on the blog.
- • Please note that the quiz disclaimer is beneath the quiz, per your request.

Review link: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw>

Quiz link: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/quiz/>

ALLISON HALL-JORDAN

Account Supervisor

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cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226

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Recipient:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ac73a58ee24044bc98c4dd74e24d8740-Phenix, Adr>
Sent Date:	2018/04/18 16:18:19
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To:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
Subject:	RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs
Date:	2018/04/17 11:44:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

These all seem fine to me (except the one that is page 4 because the layout of the decade images is awkward). My favorite is the one that is page 5, but really they're all fine except page 4.....

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 17, 2018 11:11 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Hi Jill and Brooke,

Attached please find design options for the ages and stages fact sheets for your review. All three options include the 20s–90s thumbnails and half circles. However, a few of them also include a larger version of the 30-something woman. The designers thought her image would make it easier for women to understand the intended audience for each specific fact sheet.

Please let us know which design you like the best and then we'll move forward with creating all of the decades. Please note, this hasn't been proofed, and we're just looking for feedback on the design.

Thanks, and please let me know if you have any questions.
Alli

From: Allison Hall-Jordan
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 3:01 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

This helps, thanks! I'll share this feedback with the designers and will get back to you.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 3:00 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Whatever the designers think is best and will help people make the connection between the PDF and the website should they come across the PDF and then decide to visit the website. It should look the same as much as possible for a hard copy product based on a website.

So I'd prefer the half circles b/c that's what on the website. But if that's not graphically possible then we're open to other options.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 2:54 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Patricia Nicastrì; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

So not necessarily the half circles, but we should show that each woman goes with a decade?

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 2:50 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Yes, but also with the age decades on top of the image, like they are on the website, so that when someone picks up a specific age PDF they can realize that there are other ages available.....without us having to say that explicitly on the PDF. Also, this solves the need for a diverse image.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 2:48 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Patricia Nicastrì; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Thanks for your feedback, Jill and Brooke!

To make sure I pass on the correct guidance, you'd like to see a version that includes the images of the women on the steps for better health by age page, and they should appear below the one column of text. Is that correct?

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 2:44 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

We like the one column, no image.

Brooke and I thought since there's so much white space, why not graphically represent all the ages (which also include races/ethnicities) from the website: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/nwhw/by-age> somewhere along the bottom--we leave this up to the designers. So, there would be images with diversity and ppl will understand that other ages exist.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 9:38 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Patricia Nicastrì; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

I'm fine with this and leave the image/no image option up to Jill. I'm in favor of an image because I think it makes the piece more engaging, but I am NOT in favor of the image included here because this piece needs to stand alone as a PDF/printed product, even at the same time the branding/look-and-feel should fit in with the website. And as a stand-alone piece that image excludes people, even though I know as a GROUP the images are diverse and more inclusive.

So I would vote for an image that includes a diverse group of women, rather than just the one woman.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 5:30 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Patricia Nicastrì; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Hi Jill and Brooke,

Attached please find three design options for the first page of the ages and stages PDFs. Based on your direction, we modeled it off of the [NWHW fact sheet](#), and we didn't modify the checklist page, as you liked that design. Also, we didn't proof this copy, we're just looking for your thoughts on the design/layout. Below is a breakdown of the three options:

Page 1:

- Two column layout
- No image

Page 2:

- Two column layout
- Includes an image (Jill, I know you said no image, but as we were using the same look and feel as the fact sheet, I thought we should show you what it looks like with an image.)

Page 3

- One column layout
- Includes an image

Please let us know your thoughts! Once we settle on a design, we'll create PDFs for every decade. Each decade will match the decade color on the website. Looking forward to your feedback.

Thanks!
Alli

From: Allison Hall-Jordan
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2018 1:52 PM
To: 'Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)' <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; 'Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)' <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Hi Brooke and Jill,

I just wanted to give you an update on the ages and stages PDF. We expect to have a designed example for you to review by the middle of next week.

Thanks!
Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 8:54 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Yes, thank you all.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2018 11:51 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Perfect, thank you!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2018 10:48 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

I think it's fine to include the current dates.

For the older ages I prefer the phrasing "...the week is a time for women to make small changes for better health." Without the ending that was proposed in the draft.

Thanks!

Brooke

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2018 10:29 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Hi Brooke,

We have two questions flagged for you in the attached. You'll find them on pages one and four. Please let me know what you think, and then I'll move this into design.

Thanks for reviewing, Jill!

Thanks,
Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2018 7:45 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Hi Alli –

Please consult with Brooke if you have any final questions.

Thanks,

Jill

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 3:41 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Sorry to be unclear! I was just asking whether you had any initial thoughts on the copy for the ages and stages checklist PDFs (attached for reference). But I'm happy to talk tomorrow morning. Is there a time that works well for you?

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 3:33 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

<Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Hi Alli –

I was confused by this ask. Maybe we can discuss tomorrow morning?

Jill

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]

Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 1:56 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn

Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Hi Brooke and Jill,

I know you didn't get the PDF copy until late last week, but I wanted to check in and see if you had any initial thoughts on the language. We're more than happy to make changes, please just let us know.

If possible, we'd like to move this into design late this week or early next week.

Thanks!

Alli

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 10:23 AM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)

<Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Gotcha, yes, thank you ☺

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]

Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 10:22 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn

Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

It'll be a two-page document. The first page will feature the text from the word doc, which sets up the checklist on the second page/back. Does that help?

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 10:03 AM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)

<Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: RE: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Sorry – I’m scattered – how does the Word doc fit in with the PDF? The Word doc text will become the front and the PDF page is the back?

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2018 5:51 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: Updated copy for ages and stages PDFs

Hi Jill and Brooke,

We drafted revised copy to set up the decade-specific checklists based on your initial feedback. Our goal was to make this a standalone product that is directly tied to NWHW. We used the copy from the approved About page and Steps for better health pages. As we discussed with Jill, we didn't include all of the copy from the Steps for better health pages, but you'll see that we ended up cutting even more than previously discussed. It was starting to feel like we were too focused on the well-woman visit and not enough on setting up the checklist. The designed checklist, or page 2 of the document, is attached as a reference. Please note that we tweaked the copy for the 60s, 70s, 80s, and 90s to reflect what's on the website.

Please take a look at the attached and let us know what you think—we're more than happy to revise this based on your feedback. Also, this hasn't been proofed yet. We'll do that once we incorporate your feedback/changes.

Please let me know if it's easier to talk through your thoughts by phone.

Thanks so much!
Alli

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D 202.706.7439



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From:	Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39A84338D5C743FC9CD63A2FDAAEFCDB-BISHOP-CRAW>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
Subject:	RE: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons
Date:	2018/05/16 15:23:26
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Please see my last email.

Jenn

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 3:22 PM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>
Cc: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons

No. NCI does not link to any other groups, .gov or otherwise.

From: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 3:19 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons

Brooke, I understand this. Are they linked on the factsheet?

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 3:18 PM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>
Cc: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons

No, because the reconstruction fact sheet is not ours. We don't have any control over that content. It's NCI's fact sheet that we are required to reproduce on the site by law.

From: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 3:16 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons

Do we link to them on the reconstruction stuff?

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 3:15 PM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>
Cc: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons

Unfortunately that's not exactly our policy and we link to .orgs in addition to .govs on most of our other pages.

The reconstruction fact sheet is not ours – it's NCI's.

From: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 3:12 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons

Brooke (and Jill),

(b)(5)

Please keep this response short, not a great amount of detail is needed.

Thanks,

Jenn

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 3:07 PM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons

(b)(5)

From: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 2:42 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: FW: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons

Good afternoon, Ladies,

(b)(5)

Thanks,
Jenn

From: Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 2:29 PM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>
Subject: FW: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons

Nicole Greene
Acting Director
Deputy Director



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: Nicole.Greene@hhs.gov
Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-2614
Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](https://twitter.com) | [Facebook](https://facebook.com) | [YouTube](https://youtube.com)

From: Judith Gorsuch [<mailto:jgorsuch@hhs.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 1:33 PM
To: Azar, Alex (OS/IOS) <Alex.Azar@HHS.GOV>; Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH) <Nicole.Greene@hhs.gov>
Subject: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons

Dear Secretary Azar and Acting Director Greene:

On behalf of the American Society of Breast Surgeons (ASBrS), please find attached a letter related to recently removed information on breast cancer from the Office on Women's Health website. ASBrS thanks you for reinstating some of the information and would like to work with you to identify additional sources of information that would be useful to breast cancer patients and their families.

Thank you,
Judith

Judith Gorsuch, J.D.

Counsel

Hart Health Strategies, Inc.

c: (b)(6)

jgorsuch@hhs.com

www.hhs.com

Sender:	Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39A84338D5C743FC9CD63A2FDAAEFCD8-BISHOP-CRAW>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
Sent Date:	2018/05/16 15:23:25
Delivered Date:	2018/05/16 15:23:26

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
Subject:	RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review
Date:	2017/03/03 11:35:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Sorry – I didn’t focus on the quiz ‘cause I knew you were ☺

I’m not a fan of the layout. But I didn’t want to say that because I’m not sure anything can be fixed at this point. The quiz pages look cluttered and confusing to me. The page at <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/whats-your-health-style> has too many different texts/fonts. I feel like this happens every year w/ NWHW pages – there are so many different text sizes, styles, and colors. It really doesn’t seem sleek and professional.

Also, I feel like the quiz questions are shouting at me. They’re bolded and I think it’s unnecessary.

I don’t like the graphic treatment of the image – the image for each question seems random and forced. The “unit” of the question, image, and answer choices all seem like it’s not a cohesive unit and like each element was designed by a different person. Is there anything they can do graphically, like using one or more of the NWHW colors in a box outline or something, to make it all hang together and seem more like a natural part of the NWHW pages? The quiz seems like something developed at the last minute and thrown onto the site. Why doesn’t it have some of the same graphic treatment as the ages and stages content which seems like a natural part of the site?

Also, the image for scheduling something w/ a calendar – since that has a white background and there’s no border around the image it tends to “run into” the question at the top and it looks weird with the other images which are not a white background so they have a natural border where the image ends.

On the results page there seem to be several different fonts – the Share Your Results font is very different than the rest of the site for example. Can’t more stuff be the same exact font – font size, font color, font style (bold, whatever)?

Lastly – on the texting and driving question there needs to be more words in the answer choice that goes “So....I know it’s wrong but I do it anyway.” The question says “What do you do?” and the answer “I do it anyway” doesn’t make sense. The answer choice should be changed to “So, I know it’s wrong, but I text back anyway.” Or something that includes the verb “text.”

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 11:20 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review

Hi Brooke –

Did you have any comments re: the quiz (besides the not working on Chrome)? Did you agree with my comments from yesterday? I spoke to HS about it last night.

Thanks,

Me

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 9:55 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review

The quiz does not show up for me when using Chrome Version 55.0.2883.75 m. It works fine in IE on my computer.

I think we should put the disclaimer and the accompanying asterisks on any Ages and Stages recommendation that includes an age range. Currently it's not consistent – some age range suggestions have the disclaimer and asterisk and others do not. The ones that need it are:

20s

HPV (26 and younger*)

Pap (21 and older*)

50s

Lung cancer (55 and older*)

60s

Preventing falls with vitamin D and exercise (65 and older*)

Osteoporosis (65 and older*)

Pap and HPV (65 and younger*)

The disclaimer is the same one that is on some of the other pages:

** The decision to get any medical test or procedure is a personal one between you and your doctor, at any age. These age ranges are suggested by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommendations and may not apply to every person.*

Which brings up the point that I think it's required that we add text to each Age page that says where this information comes from. Something like:

These guidelines are based on recommendations from the [U.S. Preventive Services Task Force](#), the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices](#), the [Women's Preventive Services Guidelines](#), the [2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans](#), and the [Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans](#).

I don't think you have to have the hyperlinks if that junks it up too much.

Jill knows that my personal opinion on the “help women understand” language which I feel is very condescending. I would recommend on the About NWHW page and the NWHW Fact Sheet we say instead:

The week also serves as a time to ~~help~~ **encourage** women ~~to take~~ **understand** what steps they ~~can take~~ to improve their health.

On the page at <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/tools/social-media/> I think you need to say the date and time that the Thunderclap will “thunder.”

On the same page I don’t understand why there is a hard line return in the first tweet that puts “20” on the next line. It looks awkward and seems unnecessary.

On the infographic at http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/files/documents/nwhw_infographc-eat-healthy.pdf not all of the links at the bottom (sources and body text) are clickable.

On the infographic at http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/files/documents/nwhw_infographc-eat-healthy.pdf the link to the NWHW website near the bottom is not clickable.

Thanks!
Brooke

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 4:37 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn; Patricia Nicastrì; Laura Koehler; Darcy Sawatzki; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review

+Brooke, Candace and AP

Thank you, Alli and team.

Brooke and I are reviewing it in full. I also asked Candace to review all the social media-related content and the quiz. AP will review it if she has time.

On a quick look with the quiz: I think [the home page](#) could be improved. We repeat *What’s your health style?* Maybe we can get rid of the first mention where it says “Quiz: *What’s your health style?*” I don’t think there’s a need to call out that it’s a quiz there, esp. when our disclaimer states that “this quiz...”. And maybe we can make the left navigation button catchier:

- *What’s your health style quiz*
- *What’s your health style?*
- *Find out what’s your health style*

Feel free to call me.

Jill

*Also re: your VM about the video: We may want to submit the storyboards, but I'll have more of a sense after talking to Tara. Stay tuned.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 2:26 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn; Patricia Nicastri; Laura Koehler; Darcy Sawatzki
Subject: NWHW 2017 Website Review

Hi Jill,

I'm excited to share with you the preview links for the NWHW 2017 website:
<http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw>

As you're reviewing, please keep the following in mind:

- **The pink date:** I know we talked about removing this from the header, but we think this information needs to be on every page. If we remove it, the date is pretty buried. It only appears on the About page and the Fact sheet page within the page text, so it's not very visible. We recommend keeping the date on every page, but we should determine when you'd like to pull it down after NWHW.
- **External links:** Not all of the external links currently open in a new tab, but this is actually something we're setting up to happen automatically. They should be behaving properly soon, definitely before the launch.
- **Homepage:** We were unable to rebuild the dropdown "Select your age group" because it used deprecated code that doesn't work on our current server environment. You'll see that we instead used the same age bar that we use on the "Steps for better health" pages. Let us know what you think.
- **Partner and Ambassador page:** We're working on adding icons to the bottom of these pages, but it's taking some extra time because the templates for these pages are unique. This may happen post launch.
- **Partner page:** We're working on the spacing on this page and the size of the logos so that they're smaller. They'll appear [3x3 like last year](#). This change will happen before the launch.
- **Infographics:** Some of the share messages aren't working properly, but we're working on it and will have it corrected before the launch.
- **Quiz:** Similar issue with the share messages, but we're working on it. Also, for the results, we're looking to remove some of the space between the share buttons and the explanation for each result.

We're looking forward to your feedback! Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Alli

ALLISON HALL-JORDAN
Account Supervisor

1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
D 202.706.7439



cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
Sent Date:	2017/03/03 11:35:46
Delivered Date:	2017/03/03 11:35:00

From:	Hill, Stephanie (OS/ASPA) <Stephanie.Hill@HHS.GOV>
SentVia:	HHS-Digital Discussion List <HHS-NEWMEDIA@LIST.NIH.GOV>
To:	<HHS-NEWMEDIA@LIST.NIH.GOV>
Subject:	Re: [HHS-DIGITAL] Digital Digest - May 14, 2018
Date:	2018/05/16 10:27:02
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

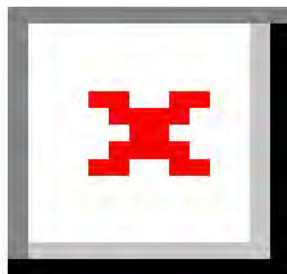
Hi Team,

We have one more item for National Women's Health Week (see below):

Treating for Two for National Women's Health Week– Shareable Social Media Content

This initiative is focused on increasing awareness surrounding safer medication use during pregnancy.

POC: Laura Vaughn, nqh8@cdc.gov



Sample Tweets:

- Did you know? 9 in 10 women in the United States take a medication during #pregnancy. Find resources on safer med use in pregnancy from @CDC_NCBDDD's #Treating4Two initiative: <https://go.usa.gov/xQ9yY> #NWHW
- Hot off the press! @CDCgov_NCBDDD has revamped their #Treating4Two website with new resources on safer medication use in #pregnancy. Download & share the fact sheet: <https://go.usa.gov/xQ9y4> & conversation starter: <https://go.usa.gov/xQ9yg> #NWHW
- Some medicines taken in pregnancy can cause birth defects and prematurity, which cost the U.S. \$29 billion annually. Get more facts on safe med use in pregnancy from @CDCgov_NCBDDD's #Treating4Two: <https://go.usa.gov/xQ9yY> #NWHW

- Pregnant or thinking of getting pregnant? Talk to ALL your healthcare providers before starting or stopping any medicine. Get more guidance from @CDCgov_NCBDD's #Treating4Two initiative: <https://go.usa.gov/xQ9yY> #NWHW
- What should women discuss with their docs for safer med use in #pregnancy? 1. All meds you take 2. Managing your health condition 3. Your personal goals. Download & share the conversation starter from @CDCgov: <https://go.usa.gov/xQ9yg> #NWHW #Treating4Two
- Calling all healthcare providers! Ask women of reproductive age about pregnancy before prescribing medicine. You might be #Treating4Two. Learn more from @CDC_NCBDDD: <https://go.usa.gov/xQ9yY> #NWHW

Facebook Posts:

- Did you know? 9 in 10 women in the United States take a medication during #pregnancy. Find resources on safer med use in pregnancy from @CDC's #Treating4Two initiative: <https://go.usa.gov/xQ9yY> #NWHW
- Hot off the press! @CDC has revamped their #Treating4Two website with new resources on safer medication use in #pregnancy. Download & share the fact sheet: <https://go.usa.gov/xQ9y4> & conversation starter: <https://go.usa.gov/xQ9yg> #NWHW
- Some medicines taken in pregnancy can cause birth defects and prematurity, which cost the U.S. \$29 billion annually. Get more facts on safe med use in pregnancy from @CDCgov's #Treating4Two: <https://go.usa.gov/xQ9yY> #NWHW
- Pregnant or thinking of getting pregnant? Talk to you ALL your healthcare providers before starting or stopping any medicine. Get more guidance from @CDC's #Treating4Two initiative: <https://go.usa.gov/xQ9yY> #NWHW
- What should women discuss with their docs for safer med use in #pregnancy? 1. All meds you take 2. Managing your health condition 3. Your personal goals. Download & share the conversation starter from @CDCgov: <https://go.usa.gov/xQ9yg> #NWHW #Treating4Two
- Calling all healthcare providers! Ask women of reproductive age about pregnancy before prescribing medicine. You might be #Treating4Two. Learn more from @CDC: <https://go.usa.gov/xQ9yY> #NWHW

Stephanie Hill

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

ASPA-Digital

Email: Stephanie.Hill@hhs.gov

Phone: (202) 260-6559

From: HHS-Digital Discussion List [mailto:HHS-NEWMEDIA@LIST.NIH.GOV] **On Behalf Of** Palczewski, Andrew (HHS/ASPA)

Sent: Tuesday, May 15, 2018 1:32 PM

To: HHS-NEWMEDIA@LIST.NIH.GOV

Subject: Re: [HHS-DIGITAL] Digital Digest - May 14, 2018

Hi everyone,

I wanted to pass along some images for the Healthy Moments 10th Anniversary that was listed in yesterday's Digest.

Thanks!

Andrew

From: HHS-Digital Discussion List [<mailto:HHS-NEWMEDIA@LIST.NIH.GOV>] **On Behalf Of** Palczewski, Andrew (HHS/ASPA)
Sent: Monday, May 14, 2018 3:36 PM
To: HHS-NEWMEDIA@LIST.NIH.GOV
Subject: [HHS-DIGITAL] Digital Digest - May 14, 2018

Hi everyone,

Please find this week's HHS Digital Digest items listed below. Do you have a campaign to share with your HHS colleagues? Send it to Engagement@hhs.gov by **COB on Friday, May 18** with the subject "HHS Digital Digest Submission" for inclusion in the next digest.

In This Update

- **National Women's Health Week (FDA Office of Women's Health)**
 - **Preview:** Holiday/Observance
- **National Women's Health Week (FDA Center for Tobacco Products)**
 - **Preview:** Holiday/Observance
- **National Women's Health Week Challenge: #WhatIWishedIdKnown (HHS Office of Women's Health)**
 - **Preview:** Holiday/Observance; Call for Submissions
- **Reddit Ask Me Anything (AMA) on Salmonella and Backyard Poultry (CDC)**
 - **Preview:** Live Event Promotion
- **Getting Back to Work: Employment, Recovery, and the Opioid Epidemic (OSG)**
 - **Preview:** Live Event Promotion
- **2018 Healthy and Safe Swimming Week – May 21-27 (CDC)**
 - **Preview:** Holiday/Observance
- **Make Wellness Your Business: Mental Health in the Workplace (CDC)**
 - **Preview:** Live Event Promotion
- **Additional E-Liquid Warning Letters Announcement (FDA)**
 - **Preview:** Health Announcement
- **Healthy Moments 10th Anniversary (NIDDK)**
 - **Preview:** Anniversary

National Women's Health Week (FDA OWH) – May 13 – 19

Join the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Office of Women's Health in celebrating National Women's Health Week (NWHW)! From May 13 – 19, share messages from our attached NWHW Social Media Toolkit to empower women to put their health first. Topics include: safe medication use, heart health, clinical trials, food safety, and more!

POC: Zakiya Bell (Zakiya.Bell@fda.hhs.gov)

Images (attached):

- FDA OWH_National Women's Health Week_FB.jpg
- FDA OWH_National Women's Health Week_TW.jpg

Twitter/Facebook (attached):

- FDA_National Women's Health Week Social Media Toolkit 2018.pdf

National Women's Health Week (FDA Tobacco) – May 13-19

In recognition of National Women's Health Week, FDA's Center for Tobacco Products has created some social media content and shareable images highlighting the impact of tobacco use on health. Please share the following social media content with your broader networks as you see fit. *Note: Symbols will convert to intended emojis when pasted into social media channels*

POC: Lauren Rodriguez (ctpohcesocmedia@fda.hhs.gov)

Images:

- [AddYears.jpg](#)
- [CervicalCancer.gif](#)
- [LungCancer.gif](#)

Twitter

- It's National Women's Health Week! Nearly 7 out of 10 U.S. adult female smokers want to quit completely. Take the first step today: <https://women.smokefree.gov/> via @FDATobacco #NWHW ♀👤 [Attach [AddYears.jpg](#)]
- Smoking causes lung cancer, which kills more women in the U.S. each year than breast cancer. #NWHW ♀👤 Learn more via @FDATobacco: <https://go.usa.gov/x5qje> [Attach [LungCancer.gif](#)]
- Smoking increases a woman's risk for cervical cancer. Protect your health and stay #smokefree. <https://women.smokefree.gov/> via @FDATobacco #NWHW [Attach [CervicalCancer.gif](#)]

Facebook

- Smoking causes lung cancer, which kills more women in the U.S. each year than breast cancer. This National Women's Health Week, take a moment to learn about smoking's negative effects on women's health via FDA [tag FDA Facebook page]: <https://go.usa.gov/x5qju> [Attach [LungCancer.gif](#)]

National Women's Health Week Challenge: #WhatIWishedIdKnown – May 13-19

Happy [National Women's Health Week](#)! Thank you to everyone who supported our #NWHW Thunderclap and promoted our "What's your Health Score" quiz! If you are looking for another way to support #NWHW, we invite you to participate in our [#WhatIWishedIdKnown Challenge](#). We are asking you to share health tips and advice about what you wish you had known about health on social media using the schedule below. We encourage you to be creative in your responses: use videos and images; share your resources; add quotes from your leadership/staff. Also, check out our partner toolkit for more resources to promote the week.

POC: Candace Marshall (Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov) and Jill Wasserman (Jill.Wasserman@hhs.gov)

Social Media Toolkit (attached):

- HHS OWH_NWHW Toolkit 2018.doc

#WhatIWishIdKnown Challenge

OWH will share our #WhatIWishIdKnown Challenge content on our [@womenshealth](https://twitter.com/womenshealth) Twitter channel. Please share your advice using the hashtags **#WhatIWishIdKnown** and **#NWHW**:

- Monday, May 14 – Visit a doctor or nurse for a well-woman visit (checkup) and preventive screenings.
- Tuesday, May 15 – Get active.
- Wednesday, May 16 – Eat healthy.
- Thursday, May 17 – Pay attention to mental health, including getting enough sleep and managing stress.
- Friday, May 18 – Avoid unhealthy behaviors, such as smoking, texting while driving, and not wearing a seatbelt or bicycle helmet.

Reddit Ask Me Anything (AMA) on Salmonella and Backyard Poultry – May 15, 1 pm – 3 pm ET

Megin Nichols, DVM, MPH, DACVPM, lead for the Enteric Zoonoses Activity team at CDC, will host a Reddit AMA on *Salmonella* and backyard flocks on May 15. Submit questions anytime between 8 a.m. EDT to 3 p.m. EDT to the AMA link at www.reddit.com/r/science. The discussion will cover simple prevention steps everyone can take to stay healthy and enjoy backyard chickens and ducks. Help spread the word about the CDC Reddit AMA to backyard flock owners by sharing through your social media channels. *Note: You will need a Reddit account to submit questions. To set up a Reddit account visit, www.reddit.com.*

POC: Neha Jaggi (mtg6@cdc.gov) and Lauren Stevenson (knn0@cdc.gov)

Images (attached):

- CDC_AMA Backyard Flock Promo_FB.jpg
- CDC_AMA Backyard Flock Promo_TW.jpg

Twitter

- Have questions about *Salmonella* and backyard flocks? Check out the Ask Me Anything Reddit with CDC expert Dr. Megin Nichols Tuesday, May 15 at 1 pm EDT! www.reddit.com/r/science
- Have questions about *Salmonella* and backyard flocks? Check out the Ask Me Anything Reddit with CDC expert Dr. Megin Nichols tomorrow at 1 pm EDT! www.reddit.com/r/science **[Send on May 14]**
- Got questions about *Salmonella* and staying healthy around backyard flocks? Join our Science AMA with CDC expert Dr. Megin Nichols RIGHT NOW! Join us until 3 pm EDT www.reddit.com/r/science **[Send on May 15 @ 1pm]**

Facebook

- Have questions about *Salmonella* and backyard flocks? Join the Ask Me Anything Reddit on Tuesday, May 15 from 1-3 pm EDT with CDC expert Dr. Megin Nichols to get

answers on how to stay healthy and prevent Salmonella infections from backyard flocks.
www.reddit.com/r/science

- Have questions about Salmonella and backyard flocks? Join the Ask Me Anything Reddit on Tuesday, May 15 from 1-3 pm EDT with CDC expert Dr. Megin Nichols to get answers on how to stay healthy and prevent Salmonella infections from backyard flocks.
www.reddit.com/r/science [Send on May 14]

Getting Back to Work: Employment, Recovery, and the Opioid Epidemic – May 16, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm ET

Join the HHS Partnership Center and hear directly from the nation's Surgeon General VADM Jerome M. Adams, M.D., M.P.H. about the value of employment and supporting employees in the nation's recovery from the opioid epidemic. Also hear from Charles Collins, President and CEO of the YMCA of San Francisco, on the Y's comprehensive approach to workforce development, as well as from Travis Lowe, pastor of Crossroads Church in Bluefield, West Virginia, on collaborative efforts between faith leaders and local businesses inspiring entrepreneurship, hope, and healing in their community. Register for the webinar [here](http://bit.ly/cfbnp-051618). (Bit.ly URL: <http://bit.ly/cfbnp-051618>)

POC: Heidi Christensen (Heidi.Christensen@hhs.gov)

Images (attached):

- HHS Partnerships_Back to Work 1_FB_TW.png
- HHS Partnerships_Back to Work 2_FB_TW.png
- HHS Partnerships_Back to Work 3_FB_TW.png

Twitter

- #DYK recovering from #addiction is not only critical for health of individuals, but also economy at large? Join @PartnersForGood on May 16 at 12P ET to hear health, faith & biz ldrs share ways to restore hope/healing to lives & communities. Register: <http://bit.ly/cfbnp-051618>
- The health of our communities directly impacts our local economies. Join @PartnersForGood on Wed, May 16 at 12P ET to learn how health, faith & biz leaders are working together to invest in #recovery & seeing lives, workforce transformed. Register: <http://bit.ly/cfbnp-051618>
- DYK a top priority for @Surgeon_General is our #economy? When health of people/communities falters due to #addiction, bizs are impacted. Join @PartnersForGood on May 16 at 12P ET to learn how faith/biz ldrs are restoring hope & economy! Register now: <http://bit.ly/bcfbnp-051618>
- How can faith and community leaders partner with bizs to help those in #recovery get #Back2Work? Join @PartnersForGood on Wed., May 16 at 12P (ET) and learn how to help transform lives & your local economy. Register today!: <http://bit.ly/cfbnp-051618> @Surgeon_General @HHSGov
- Join @PartnersForGood on Wed, May 16 at 12p ET to learn how local biz/faith/health/community leaders have come together to help people in #recovery get #Back2Work and thrive! Healthy people=Healthy economy. Register today: <http://bit.ly/cfbnp-051618> @Surgeon_General @HHSGov
- @Surgeon_General says helping those in #recovery get #Back2Work actually lifts the ROI of a local economy. Join @PartnersforGood on May 16 at 12p ET & hear from our

#TopDoc & faith/community ldrs who are helping lives & economies thrive! Register at <http://bit.ly/cfbnp-051618>

- Recovering from #addiction is not only critical to the health of individuals, but also to local economies. Join @PartnersForGood on May 16 at 12P ET to hear health, faith & biz ldrs share ways to restore hope/healing to lives & communities. Register: <http://bit.ly/cfbnp-051618>
- It's NOT too late! Join @PartnersForGood today at 12P (ET) and hear from @Surgeon_General and local faith & community leaders helping those in #recovery get #Back2Work. REGISTER NOW! <http://bit.ly/cfbnp-051618> @HHSGov #PartnersInHope
-

Healthy and Safe Swimming Week – May 21-27

May 21 – 27, 2018, marks the 14th annual [Healthy and Safe Swimming Week](#). This year's theme is "Swim Healthy. Stay Healthy" aims to encourage all swimmers to practice healthy swimming habits this summer. The campaign is an opportunity to collaborate with state and local public health partners and the aquatics sector to engage and educate the public about maximizing the health benefits of water-based physical activity while minimizing the risk of illness and injury. A number of materials and resources are available to help promote the week, including new partner [toolkit](#), [posters](#), [buttons and banners](#), social media messages (below), [feature](#), and [FREE print materials](#).

POC: Ashley Andújar (whj4@cdc.gov) and Neha Jaggi (mtq6@cdc.gov)

Facebook Live - Monday, May 21, 2 pm – 2:30 pm ET

To kick off the week, CDC is hosting a Facebook Live featuring recreational water subject matter expert (SME) Michele Hlavsa, RN, MPH. During the session, CDC's SME will discuss the recent MMWR report findings, the benefits of swimming and also share tips on avoiding illnesses caused by waterborne germs. There will also be a question and answer segment for audience participation.

Images (attached):

- CDC_Safe Swimming Facebook Live 1_FB_TW.png
- CDC_Safe Swimming Facebook Live 2_FB_TW.png

Twitter

- Join [@CDCgov](#) on 5/21 at 2pm EDT for a Facebook Live to kick start Healthy and Safe Swimming Week! #HSSW2018

Facebook

- Join [CDC](#) on 5/21 at 2pm EDT for a Healthy and Safe Swimming Week Facebook Live to learn how to help protect yourself and loved ones from illness and injury at the pool this summer.

General Social Media Messages

Images (attached):

- CDC_Safe Swimming GIF 1_FB_TW
- CDC_Safe Swimming GIF 2_FB_TW.gif
- CDC_Safe Swimming Button_FB.jpg

- CDC_Safe Swimming Button_TW.png

Twitter

- It's Healthy and Safe Swimming Week! Learn CDC's steps of healthy swimming to help protect yourself, your family, and friends from illness and injury at the pool this summer. #HSSW2018 <https://go.usa.gov/xQN4R>
- Diarrhea and swimming don't mix! Remind friends and loved ones not to swim or let kids swim if sick with diarrhea. <https://go.usa.gov/xQRNZ> #HSSW2018
- Did you know chlorine doesn't kill all diarrhea germs instantly? Learn more this Healthy and Safe Swimming Week <https://go.usa.gov/xQRNZ> #HSSW2018

Facebook

- It's Healthy and Safe Swimming Week! Learn CDC's steps of healthy swimming to help protect yourself, your family, and friends from illness and injury at the pool this summer. <https://go.usa.gov/xQN4R>
- Diarrhea and swimming don't mix! Learn CDC's steps of healthy swimming to help protect yourself, your family, and friends from illness and injury at the pool this summer. <https://go.usa.gov/xQRNZ>
- Did you know chlorine doesn't kill all diarrhea germs instantly? Learn more this Healthy and Safe Swimming Week <https://go.usa.gov/xQRNZ>

Make Wellness Your Business: Mental Health in the Workplace – May 24, 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm ET

An estimated 50% of all Americans is diagnosed with a mental illness or disorder at some point in their lifetime. Employers recognize that untreated mental health conditions, like depression and anxiety, lead to costly challenges such as absenteeism, reduced productivity, and increased health care and disability costs. Workplace health promotion programs play a key role in helping employers identify and prevent mental illness and improve employees' quality of life. Ewuria Darley from the American Psychiatric Association Foundation's Center for Workplace Mental Health, will discuss mental health practices in the workplace, current trends, employer roles, strategies for addressing employees' mental health, and key resources for employers. After you [register online](#), you will receive a confirmation email with the access link and options for adding the Webinar to your calendar.

POC: Jason Lang (bzl0@cdc.gov)

Images (attached):

- CDC_Mental Health in the Workplace_FB_TW.jpg

Additional E-Liquid Warning Letters Announcement

FDA's Center for Tobacco Products has created some social media content and shareable images highlighting the recent announcement on additional e-liquid warning letters issued. Please share the following social media content with your broader networks as you see fit.

POC: Lauren Rodriguez (ctpohcesocmedia@fda.hhs.gov)

Images:

- [DeceptivePackaging.gif](#)
- [DeceptivePackaging1.jpg](#)
- [DeceptivePackaging2.jpg](#)
- [ELiquid.gif](#)

Twitter

- <https://twitter.com/FDATobacco/status/994588959857676289>
- <https://twitter.com/FDATobacco/status/994592836191490049>
- <https://twitter.com/FDATobacco/status/994594538671964160>
- On May 10, 2018, @FDATobacco sent four more warning letters to companies for selling e-liquids that resemble kid-friendly food products like cereal, soda and pancakes. One company was also cited for illegally selling the product to a minor. <https://go.usa.gov/xQRQX> [Attach [DeceptivePackaging.gif](#)]
- Exposure to the nicotine in e-liquids can be toxic, especially to young children. If you vape, you can help protect children from accidental exposure to e-liquids by following these tips via @FDATobacco. <https://go.usa.gov/xQR5T>

Facebook

- Over the last two weeks, FDA [tag FDA Facebook page] has sent 17 warning letters to makers and sellers of e-liquids that resemble kid-friendly food products like cereal, soda, juice boxes, or candy. These companies are putting kids at risk because exposure to nicotine in e-liquids can be toxic, especially to young children. View the full list of products: <https://go.usa.gov/xQN3f> [Attach [DeceptivePackaging1.jpg](#) and [DeceptivePackaging2.jpg](#)]
- Exposure to nicotine in e-liquids can be toxic, especially to young children. Parents and other caregivers can help protect children from accidental exposure to e-liquids by following some simple steps via FDA [tag FDA Facebook page]: <https://go.usa.gov/xQ8BT> [Attach [ELiquid.gif](#)]

Healthy Moments 10th Anniversary

Join NIDDK in celebrating the 10th anniversary of [Healthy Moments](#) this May. *Healthy Moments* is a series of weekly radio episodes featuring Dr. Griffin P. Rodgers, the Director of NIDDK. Each week Dr. Rodgers offers tips on how to prevent and manage diseases that are important to the community and in support of the mission of HHS. If you are interested in collaborating on a series in 2019, please contact Julia Jackson.

POC: Julia Jackson (Julia.jackson@nih.gov)

Twitter/Facebook

- Congratulations to @NIDDKgov and Dr. Griffin Rodgers for 10 years of health tips on #HealthyMoments! www.bit.ly/hm-niddk
- Start your day the healthy way with @NIDDKgov's Dr. Rodgers. Tune in to #HealthyMoments, with tips to prevent health problems and stay healthy. Now celebrating 10 years! www.bit.ly/hm-niddk
- #HealthyMoments celebrates 10 years on of health tips for you and your family. Find out how to tune in to @NIDDKgov's radio broadcast featuring Dr. Griffin Rodgers www.bit.ly/hm-niddk

###

Andrew Palczewski

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs (ASPA)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

O: 202-205-2805

(b)(5)

andrew.palczewski@hhs.gov

Learn more about HHS Digital Communications: <http://www.hhs.gov/web/>.

The HHS-NewMedia ListServ is a conversation between individuals within the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

Please make sure to work with your respective Communication Director, Information Systems Security Officer, Records Liaison, Privacy Officer and Legal Counsel to ensure the responsible use of social media as a federal agency. Better yet, invite them to the listserv to participate in the discussion.

Subscribe or Unsubscribe at <https://list.nih.gov/cgi-bin/wa.exe?SUBED1=HHS-NEWMEDIA&A=1>

Learn more about HHS Digital Communications: <http://www.hhs.gov/web/>.

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Please make sure to work with your respective Communication Director, Information Systems Security Officer, Records Liaison, Privacy Officer and Legal Counsel to ensure the responsible

use of social media as a federal agency. Better yet, invite them to the listserv to participate in the discussion.

Subscribe or Unsubscribe at <https://list.nih.gov/cgi-bin/wa.exe?SUBED1=HHS-NEWMEDIA&A=1>

Sender:	Hill, Stephanie (OS/ASPA) <Stephanie.Hill@HHS.GOV>; HHS-Digital Discussion List <HHS-NEWMEDIA@LIST.NIH.GOV>
Recipient:	<HHS-NEWMEDIA@LIST.NIH.GOV>
Sent Date:	2018/05/16 10:25:45
Delivered Date:	2018/05/16 10:27:02

From:	Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=AC73A58EE24044BC98C4DD74E24D8740-PHENIX, ADR>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	RE: Public Inquiries
Date:	2018/04/03 16:49:30
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Lol no worries. Have a nice evening!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 4:29 PM
To: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Public Inquiries

Sorry – my computer is being weird. I meant to say that I’m logging off now for the day. Feel free to call me if you need immediate help with anything.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2018 4:28 PM
To: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Public Inquiries

From: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2018 4:23 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Public Inquiries

I like what you’ve done. Much improved and much appreciated! I’ll send to Jenn for approval and to see if she thinks any other approvals are needed (outside of OWH).

Thanks again,

AP

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Tuesday, April 3, 2018 4:12 PM
To: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Public Inquiries

Without seeing the public inquiries you're receiving, here is my suggested edit, just to make it a little clearer with the idea that these inquiries are not from media but are from members of the general public.

Dear [name],

(b)(5)



Sincerely,

The Office on Women's Health

From: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2018 3:42 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Public Inquiries

Good afternoon,

I combined what was sent previously and what was sent to Kate. I would like to send this response to the public inquiries we've received. Please add your edits and I will send to Jenn for review:

Dear [name],

(b)(5)



Sincerely,

The Office on Women's Health

Thanks all!

Adrienne Phenix, M.S., C.H.E.S.

Public Health Analyst

<< OLE Object: Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) >>

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov

Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-0571

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=AC73A58EE24044BC98C4DD74E24D8740-PHENIX, ADR>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Sent Date:	2018/04/03 16:49:29
Delivered Date:	2018/04/03 16:49:30

From:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=EXCHANGELABS/ou=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
To:	Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ac73a58ee24044bc98c4dd74e24d8740-Phenix, Adr>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	RE: Public Inquiries
Date:	2018/04/03 16:02:01
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Only comment is to remove the sentence below, and changed the order of things...

Dear [name],

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Sincerely,

The Office on Women's Health

From: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)

Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2018 3:42 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Public Inquiries

Good afternoon,

I combined what was sent previously and what was sent to Kate. I would like to send this response to the public inquiries we've received. Please add your edits and I will send to Jenn for review:

Dear [name],

(b)(5)

Sincerely,

The Office on Women's Health

Thanks all!

Adrienne Phenix, M.S., C.H.E.S.
Public Health Analyst

<< OLE Object: Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) >>

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov

Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-0571

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
Recipient:	Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ac73a58ee24044bc98c4dd74e24d8740-Phenix, Adr>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Sent Date:	2018/04/03 16:02:00
Delivered Date:	2018/04/03 16:02:01

From:	Womenshealth </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=CF209F3C3CD041DF98351BB83190A839-WOMENSHEALT>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: Form submission from: Email OWH
Date:	2018/05/21 13:03:52
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Weird. I'm still getting the error. Ok, thanks for the update.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2018 9:25 AM
To: Womenshealth <Womenshealth@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Form submission from: Email OWH

That's interesting because the Spanish one works fine from the Spanish language version of P&S.
https://espanol.womenshealth.gov/img/hhswomenshealth/OWH_FS_Bulimia_2017_spa.pdf

I'll let them know. Still waiting on them for that other request you had....

From: Womenshealth
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2018 9:15 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Email OWH

Good morning Brooke,

The fact sheet on the Bulimia page works, but we get a 404 Error message from the Printables/Shareables page: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/printables-and-shareables/resource/fact-sheets>

Thanks,

AP

From: womenshealth.gov [<mailto:webdev@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2018 1:03 AM
To: Womenshealth <Womenshealth@hhs.gov>
Subject: Form submission from: Email OWH

Hello,
The contact us form on Womenshealth.gov was successfully submitted. Here are the contents of the form.

Name: Janell Warnock
Email: jwarnock@tchd.org
Topic: Website issues
Body: The link to the Spanish handout on Bulimia is not working.

Mental health information for women.
Bulimia nervosa fact sheet (PDF, 88 KB)
Spanish (PDF, 88 KB)

Thank you for your prompt attention,
Womenshealth.gov

Sender:	Womenshealth </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=CF209F3C3CD041DF98351BB83190A839-WOMENSHEALT>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/05/21 13:03:50
Delivered Date:	2018/05/21 13:03:52

To:	Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>
Subject:	RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap
Date:	2018/05/10 09:59:59
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Yes, that would be a

From: Lauren Salay [mailto:LSalay@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 9:58 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke – the Hager Sharp team is putting together a little promotion plan for the calculator. Were you planning to submit that into clearance with the mockups? I believe it should be ready for review soon, but I'll check that status with our team.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 9:25 AM
To: Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Great news! Option B was approved by Jenn and Nicole with no additional changes. So that is what I'm going to put through the next level of review/clearance with OASH and I'll let you know as soon as I hear anything.

From: Claire Simon [mailto:CSimon@palladianpartners.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2018 3:41 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>;

Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke,

I wanted to pass along updated mock-ups for the ovulation calculator. The files can be accessed here:
<https://palladian.sharefile.com/d-s5ac4537790b442ca>

1. • Ovulation calculator content in OWH template
2. • Ovulation calculator mock-up option A (includes all black text other than links, which are purple)
3. • Ovulation calculator mock-up option B (includes mostly black text other than links, which are purple. Also included some additional branding colors on “results” pages to highlight important information)

Our graphics team was able to make some of the requested design changes below, but they weren’t able to make all of them for 508 reasons. Instead, we wanted to provide you with a second option (option B) that includes some additional branding colors on the “results” pages. Both options A and B reflect the simplistic design that the team liked.

Let us know if you have any questions or feedback!

Thank you,
Claire

Design changes:

- Can you remove the gray border around the small blue boxes in the “key” on the results page? Nothing else except the fields to fill in on the first page (and the masthead) have the gray border so it seems unnecessary here. **Not 508 compliant**
- Can we see a version where the calendar numerals in the fertile window are not bolded? (While the design is admirably simple I’m trying to figure out if there’s additional ways to simplify it further.) **Not 508 compliant**
- I’m concerned about the dates being in purple but not clickable if the new rule is that purple text is reserved for clickable things. **Fixed!**

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910
t: 301.273.2824

(b)(6)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 4:59 PM
To: Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi,

To follow up after today's meeting with Tara, OASH Comms – she said generally it looked great, and that she remembered our old ovulation calculator. Her only feedback was to work on a partnership/promotion plan with organizations like ACOG who might be interested in promoting it if they didn't already have their own calculator.

I thought all of the suggested edits to the text changes were great and so you can just "accept" those in track changes ☺

In order to move this through OWH clearance, it would be useful to have both the final mockups and the text-only document that Sheryl sent in a separate email. The text-only document should be in the standard fact sheet plain-text format. That way if Jenn or Nicole want to suggest changes to the language they can do it on that page where it's easier to fit in changes.

So whenever they're ready I'll put them through OWH clearance. No hurry as I know you all have a lot happening in the next few days.

Thanks.
Brooke

From: Claire Simon [<mailto:CSimon@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 12:10 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke,

I wanted to re-send the ovulation calculator mock-ups. A few notes:

- These don't include the minor design updates yet. However, those design recommendations are minimal enough that it shouldn't affect the look and feel of the design.
- These don't yet include the updated disclaimer language and other minor content edits. Sheryl and Tara have a few clarifying questions, which they will plan to share with you later today. Once we confirm the content changes, we can move forward with updating these mock-ups!

Let us know if you receive any feedback after your meeting.

Thank you!
Claire

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910
t: 301.273.2824

(b)(6)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Claire Simon
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 5:05 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke,

Thanks so much for your feedback! From a design perspective, I think this feedback makes sense. Our team is reviewing the edits to the copy deck, and we'll reach out if there are any clarifying questions. We'll aim to send updated mock-ups by the end of this week/early next week.

Thanks again for the quick review!

Best,

Claire

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400

Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2824

(b)(6)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 2:03 PM
To: Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Thanks for these materials. Candace and I have reviewed the mockups and the text. I marked up the attached word documents with edits. We'd like to see these edits mocked up, and I also had a few questions about design.

- Can you remove the gray border around the small blue boxes in the "key" on the results page? Nothing else except the fields to fill in on the first page (and the masthead) have the gray border so it seems unnecessary here.
- Can we see a version where the calendar numerals in the fertile window are not bolded? (While the design is admirably simple I'm trying to figure out if there's additional ways to simplify it further.)
- I'm concerned about the dates being in purple but not clickable if the new rule is that purple text is reserved for clickable things.

Candace will send any thoughts she has on the social media angle separately ☺

From: Claire Simon [<mailto:CSimon@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 4:16 PM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer

<EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>

Subject: RE: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Good evening, Brooke, Ann, and Candace.

Thanks so much for a great discussion last week on the ovulation calculator. As follow-up, please find attached:

- Updated mobile and desktop mock ups
- Ovulation calculator copy deck (Note for Brooke: There are a few comments in the word document for your attention)
- Sample Facebook post with ovulation calculator image and promotional text. (Note for Candace: We can swap out the text and/or image if you have any other preferences)

I've also re-attached the notes from our content strategy meeting in case you want to refer to our discussion.

Thanks so much, and please feel free to reach out with questions.

Best,
Claire

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400

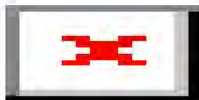
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2824

(b)(5)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Emily Dammeyer

Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 4:56 PM

To: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OPHS) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Elise LaPrade <ELaPrade@palladianpartners.com>; Akudo Nwankpa <ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>; Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>

Subject: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi everyone,

Thanks for a productive meeting on Friday. Attached are notes and next steps from our meeting. I'm also attaching mockups for the proposed header updates, which show the current site vs. proposed side by side. Brooke, please let us know when you've had a chance to share with Jenn and get her feedback.

We have additional deliverables from the meeting, which we'll be sending over this week. Brooke, we're working on updating materials to send over to NIH Medical Arts. We'll plan to send a package over for you tomorrow to pass along to your contact.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>

Sent: Friday, October 06, 2017 11:47 AM

To: Elizabeth Osborn; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OPHS); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Emily Dammeyer; Chuck Sebian-Lander; Sheryl Rhoads; Elise LaPrade; Akudo Nwankpa; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Patricia Nicastri

Cc: Mikhaila Richards

Subject: Biweekly Website Meeting

When: Friday, April 06, 2018 10:00 AM-11:00 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US &Canada).

Where: OWH Conference Room/Conference Call

(b)(5); (b)(6)

Recipient:	Lauren Salay < LSalay@hagerssharp.com >
Sent Date:	2018/05/10 10:00:03
Delivered Date:	2018/05/10 09:59:59
Message Flags:	Unsent

From:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
To:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject:	RE: Ages and stages PDFs
Date:	2018/05/04 15:31:55
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Jill,

We've made the changes across the ages pages. If approved, we can go live this afternoon.

<https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/by-age/your-20s>

Thanks!

Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>

Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 2:19 PM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>

Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi Alli –

Approved.

It looks fantastic.

Thanks,

J

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]

Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 2:15 PM

To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>

Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi Jill,

Based on our convo this morning, we updated the fact sheet box in the left nav on the 20s page so you can see what it will look like. The title now reads, "National Women's Health Week checklist: Your 20s." Here's the example: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/by-age/your-20s>

If this is approved, we'll update the rest of the pages accordingly.

Thanks!
Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 11:36 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Why don't you call me.. (b)(6)

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 11:32 AM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

So titles should be "Your 20s Checklist," "Your 30s Checklist," etc.?

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 10:32 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

When we talked about it last night, Brooke said it sounded fine. I think we should move forward and get it done. ☺

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 10:05 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Someone who isn't at a conference gets to decide on this, I'm not 100% on the conversation.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 10:01 AM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Yes—but Brooke has to agree.

And if that's the case, maybe we do call them Your 20s Checklist, Your 30s Checklist, etc.?!

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:14 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

At some point we should upload the checklists to the printables and sharables section as well, right?

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 8:53 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: Re: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi there,

We can update the left nav to match the other fact sheets without a problem. What would you like the title of the PDFs to be? What do you think about this: "National Women's Health Week Checklist: Your 20s"?

Also, we can easily change the icon text at the bottom of the page. We'll make sure it says, "Print your checklist."

Thanks!
Alli

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 3, 2018 4:25:39 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

As much as possible, the NWHW pages need to FUNCTION in the same way the rest of the website does – so please let that guide your decision making also.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:15 PM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

I'd like them there too—b/c there are ppl who will read the list all the way to the bottom and then BAM. They see the print your checklist option. We cover all bases.

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:14 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

I just talked with Brooke, and she agrees with Jill's suggestion below.

If we put the pdf in the left nav the way it is on the page mentioned below do we need the "print your checklist" links?

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi Alli –

I want Brooke to comment and I think she is offline for the day.

But I'm not thrilled with these options. Here are my thoughts:

- I want both options but:
- I'd like these decade checklist to be more prominent, clean and official looking –like how we highlight the NWHW fact sheet here in the left nav:
<https://www.womenshealth.gov/nwhw/about>. Is that possible? We put a lot of work into these and they are wanted items, let's show them off. If we can go this route, we will need to think what we name these...National Women's Health Week checklist for 20s, National Women's Health Week 20s checklist, etc.
- If we can do both, the below the checklist option can stay as is **but** the text should read "Print your checklist".

Jill

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 3:06 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi Jill and Brooke,

For the checklist PDFs, I have a quick question about implementation. Where exactly do you want us to add the print link? If you go to the preview site's "your 20s" page, you'll see two potential options:
<https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/by-age/your-20s>

The options are as follows:

- In the left nav
- Below the checklist content as per the previous years' "print your list" option

Please let me know which of these works for you (or if it's both). Sounds like Palladian should be able to roll this out quickly once they know how to proceed.

Thanks!
Alli

ALLISON HALL-JORDAN

Account Supervisor

1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
D 202.706.7439



cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226

Sender:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Recipient:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Sent Date:	2018/05/04 15:31:20
Delivered Date:	2018/05/04 15:31:55

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Womenshealth </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=cf209f3c3cd041df98351bb83190a839-Womenshealt>
Subject:	RE: Form submission from: Email OWH
Date:	2018/04/24 09:10:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thanks! She's already sent me the Sexual Harassment/Coercion stuff – I've got several things in clearance....

From: Womenshealth
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 9:01 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Form submission from: Email OWH

Yes, it's signed. Sure, I'll send it to you 😊

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 8:44 AM
To: Womenshealth <Womenshealth@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Form submission from: Email OWH

Thanks! Are you in the office today? Can you look on my chair to see if there's anything there from Nicole that's been cleared? If there is, can you ask Tracie to scan and send to me? Thank you!

From: Womenshealth
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 8:33 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Form submission from: Email OWH

Thanks Brooke! I also sent it to her, it's working from the Spanish relationships and Safety module.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 8:31 AM
To: Womenshealth <Womenshealth@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Form submission from: Email OWH

Thanks AP – I'll have them update that link. If she's having trouble getting to it she can access it from the Spanish-language version of Printables and Shareables at <https://espanol.womenshealth.gov/printables-and-shareables/health-topic/violence-and-safety> or it's just at https://espanol.womenshealth.gov/img/hhswomenshealth/hoja_de_datos_seguridad_violencia.pdf if the direct link helps.

From: Womenshealth
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 8:10 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Email OWH

Hi Brooke,

When you click on the Spanish PDF link on this page, the English fact sheet comes up:
<https://www.womenshealth.gov/printables-and-shareables/resource/fact-sheets>

I'll respond to Janell with standard language, but wanted to bring this to your attention.

Thanks,

AP

From: womenshealth.gov [<mailto:webdev@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 11:00 PM
To: Womenshealth <Womenshealth@hhs.gov>
Subject: Form submission from: Email OWH

Hello,
The contact us form on Womenshealth.gov was successfully submitted. Here are the contents of the form.

Name: Janell Warnock
Email: jwarnock@tchd.org

Topic: Website issues

Body: Looking through your fact sheets and notice in the safety and violence the Spanish version does not come up. When you click on it you get the English version again.

Relationships, safety, and violence fact sheet(link is external) (PDF, 109 KB)
Spanish(link is external) (PDF, 109 KB)

Thank you for your prompt attention,
Womenshealth.gov

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Womenshealth </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=cf209f3c3cd041df98351bb83190a839-Womenshealt>
Sent Date:	2018/04/24 09:10:03
Delivered Date:	2018/04/24 09:10:00

From:	Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
CC:	Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>
Subject:	Health writing meeting notes
Date:	2018/05/11 17:03:27
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Brooke,

Thanks for a productive writing meeting on Wednesday! Below are the notes, including updates on follow-up work that has taken place between then and now. Please let us know any concerns.

Best,
Tara.

1. Status updates:

- FGM/C and Mental Health updates are being finalized on staging. **Action item:** Palladian to send OWH staging links when ready. (Note: FGM/C was approved by OWH on Friday afternoon.)
- Branding updates: Palladian would like to publish these together with Mental Health and FGM/C; the QC on the branding updates is being finalized, including testing on older versions of IE. The goal is to do major updates like this in off-peak hours. (Note: We are planning to push changes live at the end of next week, to avoid any disruption during NWHW.)
- Brooke asked how the branding updates will affect the Spanish site. **Action item:** Palladian will keep Hager Sharp in the loop when links are going live. Ann approved of the updates being made to the Spanish site.
- The health writing team is working on other items for this week and next: Stroke audit; Supporting Nursing Moms copy deck; Diabetes edits; updates to Date Rape Drugs and Inflammatory Bowel Disease.
- Brooke will meet with Jenn on Friday: priority items for discussion are Cancer stats, discussion of syndication, and the Endometriosis outline.
- Brooke is next working on a review of Opioids and women, and new content on Sexual health, to move that forward to Jenn, OWH clearance, and OASH clearance.
- Birth control comparison tool: This has been on hold since the kickoff meeting in September. In a recent meeting, Jenn was eager to get this going. Part of the discussion was about how CDC's website is not meant for women, but more for doctors; this tool can fill that gap. Palladian is ready to proceed with investigating what is technically feasible. Brooke asked that we wait to see what feedback we get on the ovulation calculator designs, since it is also a tool – and then carry over those design choices. For

the Emergency Contraception and Birth Control fact sheets audit, the health writing team can work with the existing content and the usual process of researching and proposing updates.

2. Process update:

- In a change to the content development process, Brooke will begin to review PDFs that are developed from cleared content. **Action item:** Health writing team will forward the Urinary Incontinence PDF to OWH for review and approval. (Note: This was sent and approved by Brooke with one change.)

3. Sleep outline: status and scope

- Tess has been compiling research across government websites and looking into specific topic areas. The general sense is that Sleep is an emerging area of research; possible topic areas for the new content area include: sleep disorders in women, reproductive health-related sleep issues, what affects sleep in women, sleep in relation to trauma and mental health, how sleep affects health, lifestyle issues. **Action item:** Health writing team to organize a new content area outline by thematic areas (e.g., sleep disorders, sleep and pregnancy, sleep and reproductive health)

- Brooke approved this plan and noted that any time content is not about reproductive health or issues specific to women, be sure to focus on gender issues. For the tone: don't blame women; also include information about Ambien for women, and information from a recent Women's Health Conference presentation about how menopausal hormone therapy (MHT)'s beneficial effects are related to improvements in sleep quality.

- Sheryl noted that there is a Sleep and Health conference at NHLBI in October (funded by OWH), which is an opportunity to find SMEs.

3. Syndication needs: digestive health (IBS); MHT

- The IBS fact sheet update has been in a holding pattern with NIDDK SMEs not being available to review. Palladian suggested the possibility of syndicating this content. Brooke said (per Jenn) that OWH will try putting this through a SWIFT request (requesting an official response) first. **Action item:** Health writing team to send this to Brooke.

- Brooke asked if we can have both OWH content and syndicated content on the same page.

Action item: Palladian team to research and follow up at the next strategy meeting on syndication.

- MHT: Our recommendation is to consider syndicating FDA's content. **Action item:** Health writing team to create a copy deck for presenting this content for OWH review and approval.

4. Date rape drugs: SME recommendations?

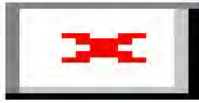
- The date rape drugs fact sheet update had been on hold (the previous plan was to remove it) but now that the update will proceed, we will need a SME. The health writing team initially approached toxicologists per OWH recommendation. The NIEHS office was unable to help. **Action item:** The health writing team has now forwarded correspondence with SME rejections to Brooke, along with possible SMEs at NIDA; Brooke to review and respond.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

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Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>
Sent Date:	2018/05/11 17:02:57
Delivered Date:	2018/05/11 17:03:27

From:	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services <cmslists@subscriptions.cms.hhs.gov>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	CMS NEWS:
Date:	2018/04/13 11:06:30
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note



Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Fact Sheet

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 13, 2018

Contact: CMS Media Relations
(202) 690-6145 | [CMS Media Inquiries](#)

Market Saturation and Utilization Data Tool

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has developed a Market Saturation and Utilization Data Tool that includes interactive maps and a dataset that shows national-, state-, and county-level provider services and utilization data for selected health service areas. Market saturation, in the present context, refers to the density of providers of a particular service within a defined geographic area relative to the number of the beneficiaries receiving that service in the area.

The seventh release of the data tool includes a quarterly update of the data to the fourteen health services areas from release 6, and also includes Federally Qualified Health Centers and Ophthalmology data. Release 7 will therefore include seven, twelve-month reference periods and the following health service areas: Home Health, Ambulance (Emergency, Non-Emergency, Emergency & Non-Emergency), Independent Diagnostic Testing Facilities (Part A and Part B), Skilled Nursing Facilities, Hospice, Physical and Occupational Therapy, Clinical Laboratory (Billing Independently), Long-Term Care Hospitals,

Chiropractic Services, Cardiac Rehabilitation Programs, Psychotherapy, Federally Qualified Health Centers, and Ophthalmology. Also new to Release 7 is a trend analysis graphing tool that allows users to graph the percentage change and trend over time at the national level for the available metrics and health services areas.

The Market Saturation and Utilization Data Tool is one of many tools used by CMS to monitor and manage market saturation as a means to help prevent potential fraud, waste, and abuse. The data can also be used to reveal the degree to which use of a service is related to the number of providers servicing a geographic region. Provider services and utilization data by geographic regions are easily compared using an interactive map. There are a number of secondary research uses for these data, but one objective of making these data public is to assist health care providers in making informed decisions about their service locations and the beneficiary population they serve. The tool is available through the CMS website at: <https://data.cms.gov/market-saturation>. Future releases may include comparable information on additional health service areas.

Methodology

The analysis is based on paid Medicare Fee-for-Service (FFS) claims data from the CMS Integrated Data Repository (IDR). The IDR contains Medicare FFS claims, beneficiary data, provider data, and plan data. FFS claims data are analyzed for a 12-month reference period, and results are updated quarterly to reflect a more recent 12-month reference period.

The Market Saturation and Utilization methodology is different from other public use data with respect to determining the geographic location of a provider. In this analysis, claims are used to define the geographic area(s) served by a provider rather than the provider's practice address. Further, a provider is defined as "serving a county" if, during the 12-month reference period, the provider had paid claims for more than ten beneficiaries located in a county. A provider is defined as "serving a state" if that provider serves any county in the state.

The Market Saturation and Utilization methodology is also different from other public use data with respect to determining the number of Medicare beneficiaries who are enrolled in a fee-for-service (FFS) program. In this analysis, a FFS beneficiary is defined as being enrolled in Part A and/or Part B with a coverage type code equal to "9" (FFS coverage) for at least one month of the 12-month reference period. There must not be a death date for that month or a missing zip code for the beneficiary so that the beneficiary can be assigned to a county. Other public use data may define a FFS beneficiary using different criteria, such as requiring the beneficiary to be enrolled in the FFS program every month during the reference period.

Starting with Release 7 (April 2018), the interactive data set for all reference periods includes state- and county-level data for the following United States territories, commonwealths, and freely associated states: American Samoa (AS); Micronesia (FM); Guam (GU); Northern Mariana Islands (MP); Puerto Rico (PR); and the U.S. Virgin Islands (VI). The national-level data in the interactive data set for all previous reference periods reflects the U.S. plus the aforementioned territories.

The Market Saturation and Utilization Tool does not include information on market saturation and utilization for Medicaid or private insurance. However, the Medicare information included in the Tool may be a useful proxy for researchers or providers in these markets.

The Market Saturation and Utilization Data Tool includes an interactive map that is color-coded based on an analysis that separates the distribution into the following categories of states/counties for the selected metric: lowest 25 percent, second lowest 25 percent, third lowest 25 percent, top 25 percent excluding extreme values, and extreme

values. An extreme value is one that greatly differs from other values in its field (e.g., Number of Providers). Counties that are excluded from the analysis are colored gray in the interactive map.

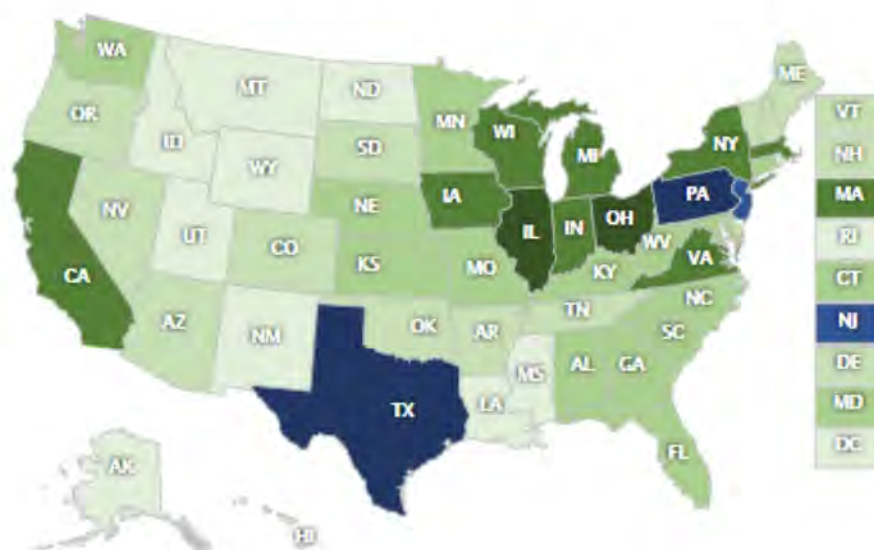
For those interested in states and counties affected by CMS' temporary provider enrollment moratoria during the reference periods for which data are available, the interactive map permits a visualization that identifies those states and counties. In this visualization, Ambulance and Home Health service areas for moratoria versus non-moratoria states/counties are identified based on color scheme.

The examples below utilize the Ambulance (Emergency & Non-Emergency) service area data (selected for illustration purposes only). Similar maps can be created through the Data Tool for all of the health service areas included in the seventh release and for the seven, twelve-month reference periods: 2014-10-01 to 2015-09-30, 2015-01-01 to 2015-12-31, 2015-04-01 to 2016-03-31, 2015-07-01 to 2016-06-30, 2015-10-01 to 2016-09-30, 2016-01-01 to 2016-12-31, and 2016-04-01 to 2017-03-31.

Map 1 displays the distribution of providers by state for the October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015 reference period. The dual color scale distinguishes between moratoria (blue) and non-moratoria states (green).

Map 1. Ambulance (Emergency & Non-Emergency):
National Distribution of Number of Providers
October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2015
Color by Moratoria Status

Market Saturation and Utilization Map:
Ambulance (Emergency & Non-Emergency) – Number of Providers

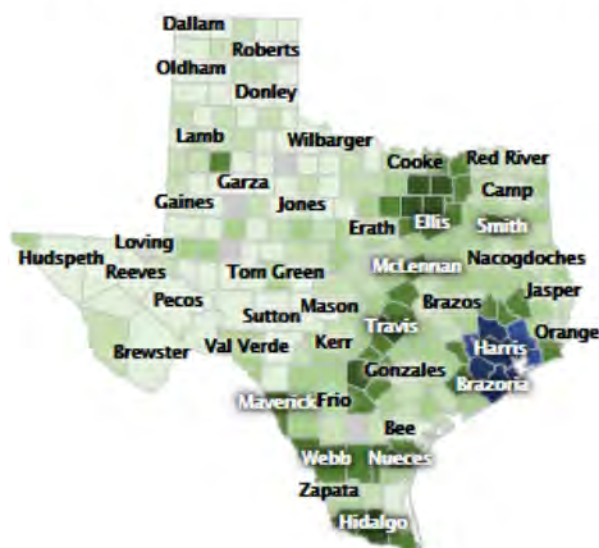


Map 1. Ambulance
(Emergency & Non-Emergency): National Distribution of Number of Providers October 1, 2014 –
September 30, 2015

Map 2 drills down to the county level and displays the distribution of providers by county within the State of Texas for the October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015 reference period. The dual color scale distinguishes between moratoria (blue) and non-moratoria counties (green).

Map 2. Ambulance (Emergency & Non-Emergency):
County Distribution of Number of Providers
October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2015
Color by Moratoria Status

Market Saturation and Utilization Map:
Ambulance (Emergency & Non-Emergency) – Number of Providers



Map 2. Ambulance (Emergency

& Non-Emergency): County Distribution of Number of Providers October 1, 2014 – September 30, 2015

Similar maps can be created at the national- and state-level for the other metrics included in the Data Tool: Number of FFS Beneficiaries, Average Number of Users per Provider, Percentage of Users out of FFS Beneficiaries, Number of Users, Average Number of Providers per County and Total Payments.

###

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This email was sent to brooke.leggin@hhs.gov using GovDelivery Communications Cloud 7500 Security Boulevard : Baltimore MD 21244

Sender:	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services <cmslists@subscriptions.cms.hhs.gov>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/04/13 11:03:52
Delivered Date:	2018/04/13 11:06:30

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
CC:	Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap
Date:	2018/05/11 15:08:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

That's fine, I appreciate the update, there's no hard deadline.

From: Lauren Salay [mailto:LSalay@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 3:07 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi, Brooke – following up on this to let you know that we're aiming to have the promo plan to you to review Monday or Tuesday of next week. I know Elizabeth and Emily are also working on pulling together the budget numbers you need, so hopefully that timing works for you. Let us know if you have any concerns.

Thanks!

Lauren

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 10:00 AM
To: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>;

Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Yes, that would be great if it's close...that way I could attach it rather than just say it's coming....

From: Lauren Salay [<mailto:LSalay@hagersharp.com>]

Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 9:58 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>

Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke – the Hager Sharp team is putting together a little promotion plan for the calculator. Were you planning to submit that into clearance with the mockups? I believe it should be ready for review soon, but I'll check that status with our team.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 9:25 AM

To: Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>

Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagersharp.com>

Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Great news! Option B was approved by Jenn and Nicole with no additional changes. So that is what I'm going to put through the next level of review/clearance with OASH and I'll let you know as soon as I hear anything.

From: Claire Simon [<mailto:CSimon@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2018 3:41 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagersharp.com>

Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke,

I wanted to pass along updated mock-ups for the ovulation calculator. The files can be accessed here:
<https://palladian.sharefile.com/d-s5ac4537790b442ca>

1. • Ovulation calculator content in OWH template
2. • Ovulation calculator mock-up option A (includes all black text other than links, which are purple)
3. • Ovulation calculator mock-up option B (includes mostly black text other than links, which are purple. Also included some additional branding colors on “results” pages to highlight important information)

Our graphics team was able to make some of the requested design changes below, but they weren’t able to make all of them for 508 reasons. Instead, we wanted to provide you with a second option (option B) that includes some additional branding colors on the “results” pages. Both options A and B reflect the simplistic design that the team liked.

Let us know if you have any questions or feedback!

Thank you,
Claire

Design changes:

- Can you remove the gray border around the small blue boxes in the “key” on the results page? Nothing else except the fields to fill in on the first page (and the masthead) have the gray border so it seems unnecessary here. **Not 508 compliant**
- Can we see a version where the calendar numerals in the fertile window are not bolded? (While the design is admirably simple I’m trying to figure out if there’s additional ways to simplify it further.) **Not 508 compliant**
- I’m concerned about the dates being in purple but not clickable if the new rule is that purple text is reserved for clickable things. **Fixed!**

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910
t: 301.273.2824

(b)(6)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 4:59 PM
To: Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi,

To follow up after today's meeting with Tara, OASH Comms – she said generally it looked great, and that she remembered our old ovulation calculator. Her only feedback was to work on a partnership/promotion plan with organizations like ACOG who might be interested in promoting it if they didn't already have their own calculator.

I thought all of the suggested edits to the text changes were great and so you can just "accept" those in track changes ☺

In order to move this through OWH clearance, it would be useful to have both the final mockups and the text-only document that Sheryl sent in a separate email. The text-only document should be in the standard fact sheet plain-text format. That way if Jenn or Nicole want to suggest changes to the language they can do it on that page where it's easier to fit in changes.

So whenever they're ready I'll put them through OWH clearance. No hurry as I know you all have a lot happening in the next few days.

Thanks.
Brooke

From: Claire Simon [<mailto:CSimon@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 12:10 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke,

I wanted to re-send the ovulation calculator mock-ups. A few notes:

- These don't include the minor design updates yet. However, those design recommendations are minimal enough that it shouldn't affect the look and feel of the design.
- These don't yet include the updated disclaimer language and other minor content edits. Sheryl and Tara have a few clarifying questions, which they will plan to share with you later today. Once we confirm the content changes, we can move forward with updating these mock-ups!

Let us know if you receive any feedback after your meeting.

Thank you!
Claire

Claire Simon
Project Manager

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cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Claire Simon
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 5:05 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke,

Thanks so much for your feedback! From a design perspective, I think this feedback makes sense. Our team is reviewing the edits to the copy deck, and we'll reach out if there are any clarifying questions. We'll aim to send updated mock-ups by the end of this week/early next week.

Thanks again for the quick review!

Best,
Claire

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Project Manager

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cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 2:03 PM

To: Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Thanks for these materials. Candace and I have reviewed the mockups and the text. I marked up the attached word documents with edits. We'd like to see these edits mocked up, and I also had a few questions about design.

- Can you remove the gray border around the small blue boxes in the "key" on the results page? Nothing else except the fields to fill in on the first page (and the masthead) have the gray border so it seems unnecessary here.
- Can we see a version where the calendar numerals in the fertile window are not bolded? (While the design is admirably simple I'm trying to figure out if there's additional ways to simplify it further.)
- I'm concerned about the dates being in purple but not clickable if the new rule is that purple text is reserved for clickable things.

Candace will send any thoughts she has on the social media angle separately ☺

From: Claire Simon [<mailto:CSimon@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 4:16 PM

To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>

Subject: RE: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Good evening, Brooke, Ann, and Candace.

Thanks so much for a great discussion last week on the ovulation calculator. As follow-up, please find attached:

- Updated mobile and desktop mock ups

- • Ovulation calculator copy deck (Note for Brooke: There are a few comments in the word document for your attention)
- • Sample Facebook post with ovulation calculator image and promotional text. (Note for Candace: We can swap out the text and/or image if you have any other preferences)

I've also re-attached the notes from our content strategy meeting in case you want to refer to our discussion.

Thanks so much, and please feel free to reach out with questions.

Best,
Claire

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400

Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2824

(b)(6)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Emily Dammeyer

Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 4:56 PM

To: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OPHS) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Elise LaPrade <ELaPrade@palladianpartners.com>; Akudo Nwankpa <ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>; Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>

Subject: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi everyone,

Thanks for a productive meeting on Friday. Attached are notes and next steps from our meeting. I'm also attaching mockups for the proposed header updates, which show the current site vs. proposed side by side. Brooke, please let us know when you've had a chance to share with Jenn and get her feedback.

We have additional deliverables from the meeting, which we'll be sending over this week. Brooke, we're working on updating materials to send over to NIH Medical Arts. We'll plan to send a package over for you tomorrow to pass along to your contact.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>

Sent: Friday, October 06, 2017 11:47 AM

To: Elizabeth Osborn; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OPHS); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Emily Dammeyer; Chuck Sebian-Lander; Sheryl Rhoads; Elise LaPrade; Akudo Nwankpa; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Patricia Nicastrì

Cc: Mikhaila Richards

Subject: Biweekly Website Meeting

When: Friday, April 06, 2018 10:00 AM-11:00 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US &Canada).

Where: OWH Conference Room/Conference Call

(b)(5); (b)(6)

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2018/05/11 15:08:17
Delivered Date:	2018/05/11 15:08:00

From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	FW: STAT media request on women's health
Date:	2018/03/30 14:22:58
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Sigh. See Kate's email questions below. The answer is that we removed the breast cancer module and links correct? I searched on wh.gov and see that we still have some breast cancer info.

From: Migliaccio, Kate (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2018 2:19 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>; Kotwicki, Lauren (HHS/OASH) <Lauren.Kotwicki@hhs.gov>; Vafiades, Mark (HHS/OASH) <Mark.Vafiades@hhs.gov>
Cc: Broido, Tara (HHS/OASH) <Tara.Broido@hhs.gov>; Gianelli, Diane M (OASH) <Diane.Gianelli@hhs.gov>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: STAT media request on women's health

We will call in a couple minutes.

Did you remove everything? Do you have links pointing users to your sister agencies?

Kate Migliaccio Grabill, MPH
CDR, USPHS
Press Secretary

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2018 2:18 PM
To: Kotwicki, Lauren (HHS/OASH); Migliaccio, Kate (HHS/OASH); Vafiades, Mark (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Broido, Tara (HHS/OASH); Gianelli, Diane M (OASH); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: STAT media request on women's health

This response looks good to me. But call me on my cell if you need to talk further at (b)(6)

Valerie

From: Kotwicki, Lauren (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2018 2:16 PM
To: Migliaccio, Kate (HHS/OASH) <Kate.Migliaccio@hhs.gov>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>; Vafiades, Mark (HHS/OASH) <Mark.Vafiades@hhs.gov>
Cc: Broido, Tara (HHS/OASH) <Tara.Broido@hhs.gov>; Gianelli, Diane M (OASH) <Diane.Gianelli@hhs.gov>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: STAT media request on women's health

Here's what I threw together so far. I'll wait to send to ASPA until you give me the OK if you talk to Valerie.

ASPA Media Interview Request

Reporters:

Megan Thielking, STAT News
Emma O'Connor, BuzzFeed News
Amanda Gomez, Think Progress

Organization:

Phone #:

Subject: OWH

Deadline: ASAP

Spokespersons: HHS Spokesperson

Additional information: OWH determined that the best use of taxpayer resources was to focus on other women's health issues that are not as well represented among other HHS offices and agencies. The <https://womenshealth.gov> website is a plain language, consumer health website with information written at the sixth- to eighth-grade reading level and it is not a policy-focused website.

Proposed response:

The pages were removed because content was not mobile-friendly and very rarely used. Our sister HHS agencies, the National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have the same information in a much more user-friendly format on their websites. Before we update any of the information on the <https://womenshealth.gov> website, we engage in a comprehensive audit and use analysis process that includes reviewing other federal consumer health websites to ensure we are not duplicating efforts or presenting redundant information. Similarly, once the website <https://women.smokefree.gov> was launched, we removed the smoking information from our site because it was no longer necessary.

Women's preventive services under the ACA (including Breast Cancer Screening):

- <https://www.hrsa.gov/womens-guidelines-2016/index.html>
- <https://www.hrsa.gov/womens-guidelines/index.html>
- <https://www.healthcare.gov/preventive-care-women/>
- <https://www.cms.gov/CCIIO/Resources/Fact-Sheets-and-FAQs/womens-preven-02012013.html>

For free or low-cost screening there is CDC's [National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program](#) (NBCCEDP). CDC's [basic breast cancer information](#) on symptoms, treatment, and risk factors links to the NBCCEDP program. NCI also refers to this program on their [Mammogram](#) fact sheet.

From: Migliaccio, Kate (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2018 2:14 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>; Kotwicki, Lauren (HHS/OASH) <Lauren.Kotwicki@hhs.gov>; Vafiades, Mark (HHS/OASH) <Mark.Vafiades@hhs.gov>
Cc: Broido, Tara (HHS/OASH) <Tara.Broido@hhs.gov>; Gianelli, Diane M (OASH) <Diane.Gianelli@hhs.gov>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: STAT media request on women's health

Here is another one we received from Buzzfeed on this topic.

We should talk. Valerie, can you stop by?

From: Ema O'Connor [<mailto:ema.oconnor@buzzfeed.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2018 11:59 AM
To: Vafiades, Mark (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Question about removal of breast cancer site

Hey Mark!

I saw that HHS removed its breast cancer website and altered information about mammograms. Not necessarily writing this up, but I was just curious as to why? Feel free to give me a call if you prefer.

Thanks!

Ema O'Connor w: 646 979 4767 | e: 646.285.3096 | t: @o_ema
Politics Reporter

BuzzFeed News
1630 Connecticut Ave, 7th fl.
Washington, DC 20009
buzzfeed.com/emaconnor
PGP key: 69414C52DDFBBDEE

Use my Signal for more secure communication: (646) 285-3096
Got a confidential tip? Here's how to send it to us: tips.buzzfeed.com

<https://my-email-signature.link/signature.gif?u=238953&e=20644250&v=7dc9e510ea55c079eef840a6bd06a2def304ed959e7fa096044916959776a09e>

Kate Migliaccio Grabill, MPH
CDR, USPHS
Press Secretary

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2018 1:48 PM
To: Kotwicki, Lauren (HHS/OASH); Vafiades, Mark (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Broido, Tara (HHS/OASH); Migliaccio, Kate (HHS/OASH); Gianelli, Diane M (OASH); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: STAT media request on women's health

Kate and Lauren,

Here is our response:

(b)(5)

Here is some background as an FYI for OASH Comms and ASPA only:

We determined that the best use of taxpayer resources was to focus on other women's health issues that are not as well represented among other HHS offices and agencies. The <https://womenshealth.gov> website is a plain language, consumer health website with information written at the sixth- to eighth-grade reading level and it is not a policy-focused website.

Valerie

(b)(6)

From: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2018 12:16 PM
To: Kotwicki, Lauren (HHS/OASH) <Lauren.Kotwicki@hhs.gov>; Vafiades, Mark (HHS/OASH) <Mark.Vafiades@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Cc: Broido, Tara (HHS/OASH) <Tara.Broido@hhs.gov>; Migliaccio, Kate (HHS/OASH) <Kate.Migliaccio@hhs.gov>; Gianelli, Diane M (OASH) <Diane.Gianelli@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: STAT media request on women's health

I've asked Valerie and Brooke legging to address

On: 30 March 2018 11:56, "Kotwicki, Lauren (HHS/OASH)"

<Lauren.Kotwicki@hhs.gov>wrote:

Looks like Jill is out. Adding in Jenn and Valerie.

From: Kotwicki, Lauren (HHS/OASH)

Sent: Friday, March 30, 2018 11:55 AM

To: Vafiades, Mark (HHS/OASH) <Mark.Vafiades@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>

Cc: Broido, Tara (HHS/OASH) <Tara.Broido@hhs.gov>; Migliaccio, Kate (HHS/OASH) <Kate.Migliaccio@hhs.gov>; Gianelli, Diane M (OASH) <Diane.Gianelli@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: STAT media request on women's health

Copying in Jill from OWH.

Jill, can you help us out?

From: Kotwicki, Lauren (HHS/OASH)

Sent: Friday, March 30, 2018 11:23 AM

To: Vafiades, Mark (HHS/OASH) <Mark.Vafiades@hhs.gov>; Broido, Tara (HHS/OASH) <Tara.Broido@hhs.gov>; Migliaccio, Kate (HHS/OASH) <Kate.Migliaccio@hhs.gov>; Gianelli, Diane M (OASH) <Diane.Gianelli@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: STAT media request on women's health

Reach out to OWH – maybe this is similar to last week's inquiry where it ended up they rearranged things based on how people search and it actually is still there.

From: Vafiades, Mark (HHS/OASH)

Sent: Friday, March 30, 2018 11:18 AM

To: Broido, Tara (HHS/OASH) <Tara.Broido@hhs.gov>; Migliaccio, Kate (HHS/OASH) <Kate.Migliaccio@hhs.gov>; Gianelli, Diane M (OASH) <Diane.Gianelli@hhs.gov>; Kotwicki, Lauren (HHS/OASH) <Lauren.Kotwicki@hhs.gov>

Subject: FW: STAT media request on women's health

Anyone know about this?

Mark B. Vafiades

Director of Communications

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health (OASH)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

Office: (202) 260-1746 | Cell: (b)(6)

mark.vafiades@hhs.gov

From: Oakley, Caitlin B. (OS/ASPA)
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2018 10:47 AM
To: Vafiades, Mark (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Rosenberg, Jeffrey (OS/ASPA); Murphy, Ryan (OS/ASPA); Lloyd, Matt (OS/ASPA)
Subject: Fwd: STAT media request on women's health

Mark—have we gotten this inquiry before?

From: "OS Media (HHS/ASPA)" <media@hhs.gov>
Subject: FW: STAT media request on women's health
Date: 30 March 2018 10:41
To: "Healthcare Media Team" <HealthcareMediaTeam@hhs.gov>
Cc: "OS Media (HHS/ASPA)" <media@hhs.gov>

From: Thielking, Megan [<mailto:megan.thielking@statnews.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2018 10:40 AM
To: OS Media (HHS/ASPA) <media@hhs.gov>
Subject: STAT media request on women's health

Hello,

I was made aware that the dedicated pages on breast cancer have been removed from the HHS website WomensHealth.gov. I wanted to reach out to HHS to see if that information has been moved elsewhere, or if there might be an explanation for why the pages were removed?

Thanks,
Megan Thielking

--

Megan ThielkingReporterO: ([617](tel:6179297668)) 929-7668@meggophone

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Sender:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/03/30 14:22:57
Delivered Date:	2018/03/30 14:22:58

From:	Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagersharp.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
CC:	Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap
Date:	2018/05/10 10:08:26
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Ok – I will get you an ETA!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 10:00 AM
To: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagersharp.com>; Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Yes, that would be great if it's close...that way I could attach it rather than just say it's coming....

From: Lauren Salay [<mailto:LSalay@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 9:58 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke – the Hager Sharp team is putting together a little promotion plan for the calculator. Were you planning to submit that into clearance with the mockups? I believe it should be ready for review soon, but I'll check that status with our team.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 9:25 AM
To: Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Great news! Option B was approved by Jenn and Nicole with no additional changes. So that is what I'm going to put through the next level of review/clearance with OASH and I'll let you know as soon as I hear anything.

From: Claire Simon [<mailto:CSimon@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2018 3:41 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke,

I wanted to pass along updated mock-ups for the ovulation calculator. The files can be accessed here: <https://palladian.sharefile.com/d-s5ac4537790b442ca>

1. • Ovulation calculator content in OWH template
2. • Ovulation calculator mock-up option A (includes all black text other than links, which are purple)
3. • Ovulation calculator mock-up option B (includes mostly black text other than links, which are purple. Also included some additional branding colors on "results" pages to highlight important information)

Our graphics team was able to make some of the requested design changes below, but they weren't able to make all of them for 508 reasons. Instead, we wanted to provide you with a second option (option B) that includes some additional branding colors on the "results" pages. Both options A and B reflect the simplistic design that the team liked.

Let us know if you have any questions or feedback!

Thank you,
Claire

Design changes:

- Can you remove the gray border around the small blue boxes in the “key” on the results page? Nothing else except the fields to fill in on the first page (and the masthead) have the gray border so it seems unnecessary here. **Not 508 compliant**
- Can we see a version where the calendar numerals in the fertile window are not bolded? (While the design is admirably simple I’m trying to figure out if there’s additional ways to simplify it further.) **Not 508 compliant**
- I’m concerned about the dates being in purple but not clickable if the new rule is that purple text is reserved for clickable things. **Fixed!**

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910
t: 301.273.2824

(b)(6)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 4:59 PM
To: Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi,

To follow up after today’s meeting with Tara, OASH Comms – she said generally it looked great, and that she remembered our old ovulation calculator. Her only feedback was to work on a partnership/promotion plan with organizations like ACOG who might be interested in promoting it if they didn’t already have their own calculator.

I thought all of the suggested edits to the text changes were great and so you can just “accept” those in track changes ☺

In order to move this through OWH clearance, it would be useful to have both the final mockups and the text-only document that Sheryl sent in a separate email. The text-only document should be in the standard fact sheet plain-text format. That way if Jenn or Nicole want to suggest changes to the language they can do it on that page where it's easier to fit in changes.

So whenever they're ready I'll put them through OWH clearance. No hurry as I know you all have a lot happening in the next few days.

Thanks.
Brooke

From: Claire Simon [<mailto:CSimon@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 12:10 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke,

I wanted to re-send the ovulation calculator mock-ups. A few notes:

- These don't include the minor design updates yet. However, those design recommendations are minimal enough that it shouldn't affect the look and feel of the design.
- These don't yet include the updated disclaimer language and other minor content edits. Sheryl and Tara have a few clarifying questions, which they will plan to share with you later today. Once we confirm the content changes, we can move forward with updating these mock-ups!

Let us know if you receive any feedback after your meeting.

Thank you!
Claire

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2824

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e: csimon@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Claire Simon
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 5:05 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke,

Thanks so much for your feedback! From a design perspective, I think this feedback makes sense. Our team is reviewing the edits to the copy deck, and we'll reach out if there are any clarifying questions. We'll aim to send updated mock-ups by the end of this week/early next week.

Thanks again for the quick review!

Best,
Claire

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910
t: 301.273.2824

(b)(6)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 2:03 PM
To: Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall,

Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Thanks for these materials. Candace and I have reviewed the mockups and the text. I marked up the attached word documents with edits. We'd like to see these edits mocked up, and I also had a few questions about design.

- Can you remove the gray border around the small blue boxes in the "key" on the results page? Nothing else except the fields to fill in on the first page (and the masthead) have the gray border so it seems unnecessary here.
- Can we see a version where the calendar numerals in the fertile window are not bolded? (While the design is admirably simple I'm trying to figure out if there's additional ways to simplify it further.)
- I'm concerned about the dates being in purple but not clickable if the new rule is that purple text is reserved for clickable things.

Candace will send any thoughts she has on the social media angle separately ☺

From: Claire Simon [<mailto:CSimon@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 4:16 PM

To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastri <PNicastri@HagerSharp.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>

Subject: RE: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Good evening, Brooke, Ann, and Candace.

Thanks so much for a great discussion last week on the ovulation calculator. As follow-up, please find attached:

- Updated mobile and desktop mock ups
- Ovulation calculator copy deck (Note for Brooke: There are a few comments in the word document for your attention)
- Sample Facebook post with ovulation calculator image and promotional text. (Note for Candace: We can swap out the text and/or image if you have any other preferences)

I've also re-attached the notes from our content strategy meeting in case you want to refer to our discussion.

Thanks so much, and please feel free to reach out with questions.

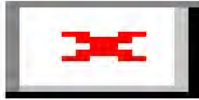
Best,
Claire

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910
t: 301.273.2824

(b)(6)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Emily Dammeyer
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 4:56 PM
To: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OPHS) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Elise LaPrade <ELaPrade@palladianpartners.com>; Akudo Nwankpa <ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>; Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi everyone,
Thanks for a productive meeting on Friday. Attached are notes and next steps from our meeting. I'm also attaching mockups for the proposed header updates, which show the current site vs. proposed side by side. Brooke, please let us know when you've had a chance to share with Jenn and get her feedback.

We have additional deliverables from the meeting, which we'll be sending over this week. Brooke, we're working on updating materials to send over to NIH Medical Arts. We'll plan to send a package over for you tomorrow to pass along to your contact.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Sent: Friday, October 06, 2017 11:47 AM
To: Elizabeth Osborn; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OPHS); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Emily Dammeyer; Chuck Sebian-Lander; Sheryl Rhoads; Elise LaPrade; Akudo

Nwankpa; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Patricia Nicastrì

Cc: Mikhaila Richards

Subject: Biweekly Website Meeting

When: Friday, April 06, 2018 10:00 AM-11:00 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US &Canada).

Where: OWH Conference Room/Conference Call

(b)(5); (b)(6)

Sender:	Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagersharp.com>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2018/05/10 10:07:20
Delivered Date:	2018/05/10 10:08:26

From:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: Ages and stages PDFs
Date:	2018/05/04 15:50:37
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Awesome ;) ;)

And I'm not surprised.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 3:47 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

The Ages & Stages fact sheets are going like hotcakes at this conference. They're definitely a win. One nurse said, no joke, "I can give it to my women patients and they can put this checklist on their fridge."

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 2:20 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Great, we'll make this change across the pages. Thanks!

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 2:19 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi Alli –

Approved.

It looks fantastic.

Thanks,

J

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 2:15 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi Jill,

Based on our convo this morning, we updated the fact sheet box in the left nav on the 20s page so you can see what it will look like. The title now reads, "National Women's Health Week checklist: Your 20s." Here's the example: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/by-age/your-20s>

If this is approved, we'll update the rest of the pages accordingly.

Thanks!
Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 11:36 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Why don't you call me.. (b)(6)

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 11:32 AM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

So titles should be "Your 20s Checklist," "Your 30s Checklist," etc.?

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 10:32 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

When we talked about it last night, Brooke said it sounded fine. I think we should move forward and get it done. ☺

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 10:05 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Someone who isn't at a conference gets to decide on this, I'm not 100% on the conversation.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 10:01 AM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Yes—but Brooke has to agree.

And if that's the case, maybe we do call them Your 20s Checklist, Your 30s Checklist, etc.?!

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:14 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

At some point we should upload the checklists to the printables and sharables section as well, right?

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 8:53 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: Re: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi there,

We can update the left nav to match the other fact sheets without a problem. What would you like the title of the PDFs to be? What do you think about this: "National Women's Health Week Checklist: Your 20s"?

Also, we can easily change the icon text at the bottom of the page. We'll make sure it says, "Print your checklist."

Thanks!
Alli

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 3, 2018 4:25:39 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

As much as possible, the NWHW pages need to FUNCTION in the same way the rest of the website does – so please let that guide your decision making also.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:15 PM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

I'd like them there too—b/c there are ppl who will read the list all the way to the bottom and then BAM. They see the print your checklist option. We cover all bases.

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:14 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

I just talked with Brooke, and she agrees with Jill's suggestion below.

If we put the pdf in the left nav the way it is on the page mentioned below do we need the "print your checklist" links?

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi Alli –

I want Brooke to comment and I think she is offline for the day.

But I'm not thrilled with these options. Here are my thoughts:

- I want both options but:

- I'd like these decade checklist to be more prominent, clean and official looking –like how we highlight the NWHW fact sheet here in the left nav:
<https://www.womenshealth.gov/nwhw/about>. Is that possible? We put a lot of work into these and they are wanted items, let's show them off. If we can go this route, we will need to think what we name these...National Women's Health Week checklist for 20s, National Women's Health Week 20s checklist, etc.
- If we can do both, the below the checklist option can stay as is **but** the text should read "Print your checklist".

Jill

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 3:06 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi Jill and Brooke,

For the checklist PDFs, I have a quick question about implementation. Where exactly do you want us to add the print link? If you go to the preview site's "your 20s" page, you'll see two potential options:
<https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/by-age/your-20s>

The options are as follows:

- In the left nav
- Below the checklist content as per the previous years' "print your list" option

Please let me know which of these works for you (or if it's both). Sounds like Palladian should be able to roll this out quickly once they know how to proceed.

Thanks!
 Alli

ALLISON HALL-JORDAN

Account Supervisor

1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E
 WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
 D 202.706.7439



cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226

Sender:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/05/04 15:50:35

Delivered Date:	2018/05/04 15:50:37
------------------------	---------------------

From:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>
CC:	Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject:	RE: Ages and stages PDFs
Date:	2018/05/07 09:47:09
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Yay! I am so happy to hear this. To be discussed further...

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Sunday, May 06, 2018 7:24 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

And, happily, we ran out of these during the lunch session on Saturday at the conference. They were the most popular thing and women wanted one of each decade for friends and loved ones. I heard so much positive feedback on these, and at one point word was spreading through the conference and women were coming over to get "the easy guidelines by age" because they'd heard about it from other conference goers!

Great job on these – and we should figure out how to promote them beyond NWHW with a thumbnail or snapshot – the visual is so great it literally drew people over to the table.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 5:09 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi Jill,

All of the checklist PDFs are live on the site!

Happy weekend!
Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 2:19 PM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
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Approved.

It looks fantastic.

Thanks,

J

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To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
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If this is approved, we'll update the rest of the pages accordingly.

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To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
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Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Why don't you call me.. (b)(6)

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To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
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Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 10:32 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

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From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 10:05 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

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From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 10:01 AM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
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To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
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From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
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Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
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Hi there,

We can update the left nav to match the other fact sheets without a problem. What would you like the title of the PDFs to be? What do you think about this: "National Women's Health Week Checklist: Your 20s"?

Also, we can easily change the icon text at the bottom of the page. We'll make sure it says, "Print your checklist."

Thanks!
Alli

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 3, 2018 4:25:39 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

As much as possible, the NWHW pages need to FUNCTION in the same way the rest of the website does – so please let that guide your decision making also.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:15 PM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

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Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

I just talked with Brooke, and she agrees with Jill's suggestion below.

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Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi Alli –

I want Brooke to comment and I think she is offline for the day.

But I'm not thrilled with these options. Here are my thoughts:

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Jill

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 3:06 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi Jill and Brooke,

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<https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/by-age/your-20s>

The options are as follows:

- In the left nav
- Below the checklist content as per the previous years' "print your list" option

Please let me know which of these works for you (or if it's both). Sounds like Palladian should be able to roll this out quickly once they know how to proceed.

Thanks!
Alli

ALLISON HALL-JORDAN
Account Supervisor

1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
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D 202.706.7439



cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226

Sender:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Sent Date:	2018/05/07 09:47:06
Delivered Date:	2018/05/07 09:47:09

From:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: Ages and stages PDFs
Date:	2018/05/04 16:29:49
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

LOL.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 4:21 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Jill that factoid is NOT in the Style Guide.....I think he's cute.

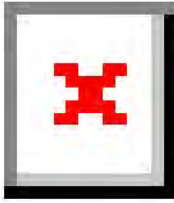
From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 4:20 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Haha! Sorry!

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 4:05 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

That is scary. I don't like rodents or rodent-related animals. LOL.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs



<https://s-media-cache-ak0.pinimg.com/originals/df/c1/05/dfc105dea9a8c19a92ad6d14b5af0d01.jpg>
Great news!!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 3:47 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

The Ages & Stages fact sheets are going like hotcakes at this conference. They're definitely a win. One nurse said, no joke, "I can give it to my women patients and they can put this checklist on their fridge."

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 2:20 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Great, we'll make this change across the pages. Thanks!

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 2:19 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi Alli –

Approved.

It looks fantastic.

Thanks,

J

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 2:15 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi Jill,

Based on our convo this morning, we updated the fact sheet box in the left nav on the 20s page so you can see what it will look like. The title now reads, "National Women's Health Week checklist: Your 20s." Here's the example: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/by-age/your-20s>

If this is approved, we'll update the rest of the pages accordingly.

Thanks!
Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 11:36 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Why don't you call me...(b)(6)

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 11:32 AM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

So titles should be "Your 20s Checklist," "Your 30s Checklist," etc.?

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 10:32 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

When we talked about it last night, Brooke said it sounded fine. I think we should move forward and get it done. 😊

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 10:05 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Someone who isn't at a conference gets to decide on this, I'm not 100% on the conversation.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 10:01 AM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Yes—but Brooke has to agree.

And if that's the case, maybe we do call them Your 20s Checklist, Your 30s Checklist, etc.?!

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:14 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

At some point we should upload the checklists to the printables and sharables section as well, right?

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 8:53 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
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ALLISON HALL-JORDAN

Account Supervisor

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WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
 D 202.706.7439



cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226

Sender:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/05/04 16:29:47

Delivered Date:	2018/05/04 16:29:49
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From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
CC:	Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastri <PNicastri@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>
Subject:	RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap
Date:	2018/05/03 12:12:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Claire,

Thanks, this is great. I'm going to put Option B through to OWH Clearance (and then I'll have to put it through OASH/SCP clearance). I'll let the team know when I hear something back.

Brooke

From: Claire Simon [mailto:CSimon@palladianpartners.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2018 3:41 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastri <PNicastri@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke,

I wanted to pass along updated mock-ups for the ovulation calculator. The files can be accessed here: <https://palladian.sharefile.com/d-s5ac4537790b442ca>

1. Ovulation calculator content in OWH template
2. Ovulation calculator mock-up option A (includes all black text other than links, which are purple)
3. Ovulation calculator mock-up option B (includes mostly black text other than links, which are purple. Also included some additional branding colors on "results" pages to highlight important information)

Our graphics team was able to make some of the requested design changes below, but they weren't able to make all of them for 508 reasons. Instead, we wanted to provide you with a second option

(option B) that includes some additional branding colors on the “results” pages. Both options A and B reflect the simplistic design that the team liked.

Let us know if you have any questions or feedback!

Thank you,
Claire

Design changes:

- Can you remove the gray border around the small blue boxes in the “key” on the results page? Nothing else except the fields to fill in on the first page (and the masthead) have the gray border so it seems unnecessary here. **Not 508 compliant**
- Can we see a version where the calendar numerals in the fertile window are not bolded? (While the design is admirably simple I’m trying to figure out if there’s additional ways to simplify it further.) **Not 508 compliant**
- I’m concerned about the dates being in purple but not clickable if the new rule is that purple text is reserved for clickable things. **Fixed!**

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910
t: 301.273.2824

(b)(6)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 4:59 PM
To: Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi,

To follow up after today's meeting with Tara, OASH Comms – she said generally it looked great, and that she remembered our old ovulation calculator. Her only feedback was to work on a partnership/promotion plan with organizations like ACOG who might be interested in promoting it if they didn't already have their own calculator.

I thought all of the suggested edits to the text changes were great and so you can just "accept" those in track changes 😊

In order to move this through OWH clearance, it would be useful to have both the final mockups and the text-only document that Sheryl sent in a separate email. The text-only document should be in the standard fact sheet plain-text format. That way if Jenn or Nicole want to suggest changes to the language they can do it on that page where it's easier to fit in changes.

So whenever they're ready I'll put them through OWH clearance. No hurry as I know you all have a lot happening in the next few days.

Thanks.
Brooke

From: Claire Simon [<mailto:CSimon@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 12:10 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke,

I wanted to re-send the ovulation calculator mock-ups. A few notes:

- These don't include the minor design updates yet. However, those design recommendations are minimal enough that it shouldn't affect the look and feel of the design.
- These don't yet include the updated disclaimer language and other minor content edits. Sheryl and Tara have a few clarifying questions, which they will plan to share with you later today. Once we confirm the content changes, we can move forward with updating these mock-ups!

Let us know if you receive any feedback after your meeting.

Thank you!
Claire

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2824

(b)(6)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Claire Simon

Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 5:05 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke,

Thanks so much for your feedback! From a design perspective, I think this feedback makes sense. Our team is reviewing the edits to the copy deck, and we'll reach out if there are any clarifying questions. We'll aim to send updated mock-ups by the end of this week/early next week.

Thanks again for the quick review!

Best,
Claire

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400

Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2824

(b)(6)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 2:03 PM

To: Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Thanks for these materials. Candace and I have reviewed the mockups and the text. I marked up the attached word documents with edits. We'd like to see these edits mocked up, and I also had a few questions about design.

- Can you remove the gray border around the small blue boxes in the "key" on the results page? Nothing else except the fields to fill in on the first page (and the masthead) have the gray border so it seems unnecessary here.
- Can we see a version where the calendar numerals in the fertile window are not bolded? (While the design is admirably simple I'm trying to figure out if there's additional ways to simplify it further.)
- I'm concerned about the dates being in purple but not clickable if the new rule is that purple text is reserved for clickable things.

Candace will send any thoughts she has on the social media angle separately ☺

From: Claire Simon [<mailto:CSimon@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 4:16 PM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: RE: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Good evening, Brooke, Ann, and Candace.

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- Updated mobile and desktop mock ups
- Ovulation calculator copy deck (Note for Brooke: There are a few comments in the word document for your attention)
- Sample Facebook post with ovulation calculator image and promotional text. (Note for Candace: We can swap out the text and/or image if you have any other preferences)

I've also re-attached the notes from our content strategy meeting in case you want to refer to our discussion.

Thanks so much, and please feel free to reach out with questions.

Best,

Claire

Claire Simon
Project Manager

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Silver Spring, MD 20910
t: 301.273.2824

(b)(6)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Emily Dammeyer
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 4:56 PM
To: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OPHS) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Elise LaPrade <ELaPrade@palladianpartners.com>; Akudo Nwankpa <ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>; Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi everyone,

Thanks for a productive meeting on Friday. Attached are notes and next steps from our meeting. I'm also attaching mockups for the proposed header updates, which show the current site vs. proposed side by side. Brooke, please let us know when you've had a chance to share with Jenn and get her feedback.

We have additional deliverables from the meeting, which we'll be sending over this week. Brooke, we're working on updating materials to send over to NIH Medical Arts. We'll plan to send a package over for you tomorrow to pass along to your contact.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>

Sent: Friday, October 06, 2017 11:47 AM

To: Elizabeth Osborn; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OPHS); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Emily Dammeyer; Chuck Sebian-Lander; Sheryl Rhoads; Elise LaPrade; Akudo Nwankpa; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Patricia Nicastrì

Cc: Mikhaila Richards

Subject: Biweekly Website Meeting

When: Friday, April 06, 2018 10:00 AM-11:00 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: OWH Conference Room/Conference Call

(b)(5), (b)(6)

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>
Sent Date:	2018/05/03 12:12:22
Delivered Date:	2018/05/03 12:12:00

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
CC:	Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>
Subject:	RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap
Date:	2018/05/10 09:24:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Great news! Option B was approved by Jenn and Nicole with no additional changes. So that is what I'm going to put through the next level of review/clearance with OASH and I'll let you know as soon as I hear anything.

From: Claire Simon [mailto:CSimon@palladianpartners.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 02, 2018 3:41 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke,

I wanted to pass along updated mock-ups for the ovulation calculator. The files can be accessed here: <https://palladian.sharefile.com/d-s5ac4537790b442ca>

1. Ovulation calculator content in OWH template
2. Ovulation calculator mock-up option A (includes all black text other than links, which are purple)
3. Ovulation calculator mock-up option B (includes mostly black text other than links, which are purple. Also included some additional branding colors on "results" pages to highlight important information)

Our graphics team was able to make some of the requested design changes below, but they weren't able to make all of them for 508 reasons. Instead, we wanted to provide you with a second option (option B) that includes some additional branding colors on the "results" pages. Both options A and B reflect the simplistic design that the team liked.

Let us know if you have any questions or feedback!

Thank you,
Claire

Design changes:

- Can you remove the gray border around the small blue boxes in the “key” on the results page? Nothing else except the fields to fill in on the first page (and the masthead) have the gray border so it seems unnecessary here. **Not 508 compliant**
- Can we see a version where the calendar numerals in the fertile window are not bolded? (While the design is admirably simple I’m trying to figure out if there’s additional ways to simplify it further.) **Not 508 compliant**
- I’m concerned about the dates being in purple but not clickable if the new rule is that purple text is reserved for clickable things. **Fixed!**

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910
t: 301.273.2824

(b)(6)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 4:59 PM
To: Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi,

To follow up after today’s meeting with Tara, OASH Comms – she said generally it looked great, and that she remembered our old ovulation calculator. Her only feedback was to work on a

partnership/promotion plan with organizations like ACOG who might be interested in promoting it if they didn't already have their own calculator.

I thought all of the suggested edits to the text changes were great and so you can just "accept" those in track changes 😊

In order to move this through OWH clearance, it would be useful to have both the final mockups and the text-only document that Sheryl sent in a separate email. The text-only document should be in the standard fact sheet plain-text format. That way if Jenn or Nicole want to suggest changes to the language they can do it on that page where it's easier to fit in changes.

So whenever they're ready I'll put them through OWH clearance. No hurry as I know you all have a lot happening in the next few days.

Thanks.
Brooke

From: Claire Simon [<mailto:CSimon@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 12:10 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke,

I wanted to re-send the ovulation calculator mock-ups. A few notes:

- These don't include the minor design updates yet. However, those design recommendations are minimal enough that it shouldn't affect the look and feel of the design.
- These don't yet include the updated disclaimer language and other minor content edits. Sheryl and Tara have a few clarifying questions, which they will plan to share with you later today. Once we confirm the content changes, we can move forward with updating these mock-ups!

Let us know if you receive any feedback after your meeting.

Thank you!
Claire

Claire Simon
Project Manager

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Silver Spring, MD 20910
t: 301.273.2824

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e: csimon@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Claire Simon

Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 5:05 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke,

Thanks so much for your feedback! From a design perspective, I think this feedback makes sense. Our team is reviewing the edits to the copy deck, and we'll reach out if there are any clarifying questions. We'll aim to send updated mock-ups by the end of this week/early next week.

Thanks again for the quick review!

Best,
Claire

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400

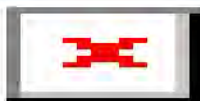
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2824

(b)(6)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 2:03 PM

To: Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>;

Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

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Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 4:16 PM

To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>

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I've also re-attached the notes from our content strategy meeting in case you want to refer to our discussion.

Thanks so much, and please feel free to reach out with questions.

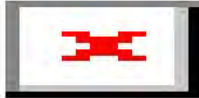
Best,
Claire

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Project Manager

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e: csimon@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



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From: Emily Dammeyer
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 4:56 PM
To: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OPHS) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Elise LaPrade <ELaPrade@palladianpartners.com>; Akudo Nwankpa <ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>; Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
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Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Sent: Friday, October 06, 2017 11:47 AM

To: Elizabeth Osborn; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OPHS); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Emily Dammeyer; Chuck Sebian-Lander; Sheryl Rhoads; Elise LaPrade; Akudo Nwankpa; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Patricia Nicastrì

Cc: Mikhaila Richards

Subject: Biweekly Website Meeting

When: Friday, April 06, 2018 10:00 AM-11:00 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: OWH Conference Room/Conference Call

(b)(5); (b)(6)

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>
Sent Date:	2018/05/10 09:24:42
Delivered Date:	2018/05/10 09:24:00

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>
CC:	Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject:	RE: Edits to Translated Factsheets
Date:	2017/11/02 11:31:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Your edits are great, thank you.

Have we talked in the past about linking to the Spanish language pages of organizations in the Resources section when they're available? I'd prefer to do that on the PDFs also, especially the Diabetes fact sheet since that is a common problem in some Spanish-speaking populations. I know there isn't a one-to-one Spanish-language version but here are some options I found. You may know of others and that's fine too.

<https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/spanish/index.html>

<https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/informacion-de-la-salud/diabetes>

<http://www.diabetes.org/es/?loc=superfooter>

Can you go through the other fact sheets and find the Spanish-language organization pages? Thanks.

Brooke

From: Pam Nieto [mailto:PNieto@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Thursday, November 02, 2017 10:53 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Edits to Translated Factsheets

Brooke,

I just confirmed with MP regarding the speedbump, and yes, usually when they have new content on the page they put the speedbump. I would suggest we remove it (we just need to request it) as it can be confusing for visitors. What do you think?

Also, are you okay with the edits and comments I made to the PDFs I sent earlier today? I will wait till MP gets back to me regarding the change of the website on the factsheets, to send them the edits.

Best,
Pam

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2017 9:45 AM
To: Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Edits to Translated Factsheets

Oh! That makes sense. Yes, if you can confirm that would make me feel better. And, good to know that's how that works!

From: Pam Nieto [<mailto:PNieto@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, November 02, 2017 9:43 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Edits to Translated Factsheets

I think that's because the carousel slides have not been translated, but I will ask anyway.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2017 9:40 AM
To: Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Edits to Translated Factsheets

Thanks Pam!

Also, when on the English homepage I got the speedbump when clicking on the Spanish-language homepage, even though it took me to the Spanish-language homepage after the speedbump. Can you look into that? Thanks.

From: Pam Nieto [<mailto:PNieto@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, November 02, 2017 9:38 AM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: Re: Edits to Translated Factsheets

That would be an MP ask. Let me ask what it would take since all the fact sheets so far have been made with the WH.gov website.

Pam Nieto
Account Supervisor
Hager Sharp
202.706.7401
Pnieto@hagerssharp.com

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 2, 2017 9:24:40 AM

To: Pam Nieto; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Edits to Translated Factsheets

It seems like we should change the website url at the bottom of the Spanish fact sheets to reflect the Spanish url.

Would that be a MP task? Or a Palladian task?

Thanks,
Ann

From: Pam Nieto [<mailto:PNieto@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, November 02, 2017 8:45 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Edits to Translated Factsheets

Hi Brooke,

I have reviewed the translated factsheets. I just have a few minor edits and consistency comments. Let me know if you are okay with these so I can send the factsheets back to MP.

As for the translation of the Printables and Shareables section, we are waiting for MP to send us a quote.

Also, I will be out of the office starting at noon today and back on Tuesday. If you need anything during that time, MP related, please contact Elizabeth.

Best,

PAM NIETO
Account Supervisor

1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
D 202.706.7401



cid:image002.png@01D08199.BE6E6670

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Sent Date:	2017/11/02 11:31:06

Delivered Date:	2017/11/02 11:31:00
------------------------	---------------------

From:	Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap
Date:	2018/04/19 19:11:10
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thank you, Brooke! That's great news. We'll regroup internally and determine when we can get the updated mock-ups to you, as well as a clean and formatted text document.

Best,
Claire

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910
t: 301.273.2824

(b)(6)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 4:59 PM
To: Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi,

To follow up after today's meeting with Tara, OASH Comms – she said generally it looked great, and that she remembered our old ovulation calculator. Her only feedback was to work on a partnership/promotion plan with organizations like ACOG who might be interested in promoting it if they didn't already have their own calculator.

I thought all of the suggested edits to the text changes were great and so you can just "accept" those in track changes ☺

In order to move this through OWH clearance, it would be useful to have both the final mockups and the text-only document that Sheryl sent in a separate email. The text-only document should be in the standard fact sheet plain-text format. That way if Jenn or Nicole want to suggest changes to the language they can do it on that page where it's easier to fit in changes.

So whenever they're ready I'll put them through OWH clearance. No hurry as I know you all have a lot happening in the next few days.

Thanks.
Brooke

From: Claire Simon [<mailto:CSimon@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 19, 2018 12:10 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ov Calculator Updates - Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke,

I wanted to re-send the ovulation calculator mock-ups. A few notes:

- These don't include the minor design updates yet. However, those design recommendations are minimal enough that it shouldn't affect the look and feel of the design.
- These don't yet include the updated disclaimer language and other minor content edits. Sheryl and Tara have a few clarifying questions, which they will plan to share with you later today. Once we confirm the content changes, we can move forward with updating these mock-ups!

Let us know if you receive any feedback after your meeting.

Thank you!
Claire

Claire Simon
Project Manager

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cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Claire Simon
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 5:05 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>;
Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall,
Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi Brooke,

Thanks so much for your feedback! From a design perspective, I think this feedback makes sense. Our team is reviewing the edits to the copy deck, and we'll reach out if there are any clarifying questions. We'll aim to send updated mock-ups by the end of this week/early next week.

Thanks again for the quick review!

Best,
Claire

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910
t: 301.273.2824

(b)(6)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 16, 2018 2:03 PM
To: Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Thanks for these materials. Candace and I have reviewed the mockups and the text. I marked up the attached word documents with edits. We'd like to see these edits mocked up, and I also had a few questions about design.

- Can you remove the gray border around the small blue boxes in the "key" on the results page? Nothing else except the fields to fill in on the first page (and the masthead) have the gray border so it seems unnecessary here.
- Can we see a version where the calendar numerals in the fertile window are not bolded? (While the design is admirably simple I'm trying to figure out if there's additional ways to simplify it further.)
- I'm concerned about the dates being in purple but not clickable if the new rule is that purple text is reserved for clickable things.

Candace will send any thoughts she has on the social media angle separately ☺

From: Claire Simon [<mailto:CSimon@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 4:16 PM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: RE: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Good evening, Brooke, Ann, and Candace.

Thanks so much for a great discussion last week on the ovulation calculator. As follow-up, please find attached:

- Updated mobile and desktop mock ups
- Ovulation calculator copy deck (Note for Brooke: There are a few comments in the word document for your attention)
- Sample Facebook post with ovulation calculator image and promotional text. (Note for Candace: We can swap out the text and/or image if you have any other preferences)

I've also re-attached the notes from our content strategy meeting in case you want to refer to our discussion.

Thanks so much, and please feel free to reach out with questions.

Best,
Claire

Claire Simon
Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910
t: 301.273.2824

(b)(6)

e: csimon@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D10126.FA5F4E30

From: Emily Dammeyer

Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 4:56 PM

To: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OPHS) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Elise LaPrade <ELaPrade@palladianpartners.com>; Akudo Nwankpa <ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Claire Simon <CSimon@palladianpartners.com>; Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>

Subject: Biweekly Website Meeting 4/6/18 Recap

Hi everyone,

Thanks for a productive meeting on Friday. Attached are notes and next steps from our meeting. I'm also attaching mockups for the proposed header updates, which show the current site vs. proposed side by side. Brooke, please let us know when you've had a chance to share with Jenn and get her feedback.

We have additional deliverables from the meeting, which we'll be sending over this week. Brooke, we're working on updating materials to send over to NIH Medical Arts. We'll plan to send a package over for you tomorrow to pass along to your contact.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>

Sent: Friday, October 06, 2017 11:47 AM

To: Elizabeth Osborn; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OPHS); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Emily Dammeyer; Chuck Sebian-Lander; Sheryl Rhoads; Elise LaPrade; Akudo Nwankpa; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Patricia Nicastrì

Cc: Mikhaila Richards

Subject: Biweekly Website Meeting

When: Friday, April 06, 2018 10:00 AM-11:00 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: OWH Conference Room/Conference Call

(b)(5); (b)(6)

Sender:	Claire Simon < CSimon@palladianpartners.com >
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Sheryl Rhoads < SRhoads@palladianpartners.com >; Emily Dammeyer < EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com >; Chuck Sebian-Lander < CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com >; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn < eosborn@hagerssharp.com >; Patricia Nicastrì < PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com >; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2018/04/19 19:10:28
Delivered Date:	2018/04/19 19:11:10

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3162cd18b6fe4e3f894fd7ff80c0e17d-CollinsShar>
Subject:	RE: Website content for your review: Fibroids and Urinary incontinence
Date:	2017/06/06 07:56:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

OK! During your vacation time I can ask Sayeedha, if she gets through the other stuff I gave her last week. I think we'll be able to let the contractors know soon that we can extend their contract until we have a new contract in place, so that will help too. But Ann is the COR and that information is still confidential, so we're just taking it one day at a time for now ☺

Thanks.
Brooke

From: Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI)
Sent: Monday, June 05, 2017 7:23 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: Website content for your review: Fibroids and Urinary incontinence

My pleasure! I'll do my best to take a concentrated look on Wednesday. Also, I'm on vacation June 12-July 3 so let's figure out what to do if the pregnancy stuff comes in during that time.
Thanks!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, June 02, 2017 2:00 PM
To: Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI)
Subject: Website content for your review: Fibroids and Urinary incontinence

Hello!

Sayeedha was very happy to hear that you were willing to take some of the workload from her with regard to reviewing our website content from an OWH clinician perspective. Thank you for volunteering!

I'm still waiting on our Pregnancy content from the SMEs. I'd like to send you Pregnancy at the same time I send you Reproductive Health and the Infertility fact sheet, since the three topics are closely related and overlap.

These facts sheets are in plain text, so will look a little different online. Don't worry about formatting or page breaks, etc., since the online versions won't have those artifacts. We have had all of the content proofread once, and will have it proofread once again before it goes online, so don't feel like you have to proofread it. We need your practicing, government clinical eye on these. You don't have to suggest new or edited content if you see a concern with the content on the page. Just tell me what the concern

is and I will work with our health writers on the best way to address it in plain-language that also takes the other SME feedback we've gotten into consideration.

Let me know if you have any other questions! Thank you!
Brooke

Brooke Leggin

Web and Community Manager



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: brooke.leggin@hhs.gov

Work Hours: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm ET

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Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=3162cd18b6fe4e3f894fd7ff80c0e17d-CollinsShar>
Sent Date:	2017/06/06 07:56:52
Delivered Date:	2017/06/06 07:56:00

From:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
To:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>
Subject:	RE: NWHW decade & checklist PDFs
Date:	2018/04/25 11:36:03
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Yay—all good news.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 11:24 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW decade & checklist PDFs

Yup! I was actually going to email you with Spanish updates today.

MotionPoint is done translating the site, so the updated site is live. We're going through it now. Also, they're starting on the NWHW fact sheet, which should go up in the next couple of days. Once we have the approved ages and stages PDFs, we'll get them started on those. We're start scheduling Spanish social media messages, too.

Thanks!

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 11:21 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW decade & checklist PDFs

Lovely!

Alli - Can we put this on our list to be done once we get English versions finalized?

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 11:19 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan

<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Cc: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)

<Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: NWHW decade & checklist PDFs

Yes, Palladian provides the source files to MotionPoint the Spanish-language translation contractor, and they translate the PDFs into Spanish and post them on the Spanish-language website. The process is usually a few days behind the English-language process, but it gets done.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)

Sent: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 11:18 AM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Cc: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)

<Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: NWHW decade & checklist PDFs

Hi Alli –

Are we planning to make these decade & checklist PDFs in Spanish? Regions and ASPA inquired. Brooke - Do we do that with our fact sheets?

I made no promises, but said I would look into it.

Jill

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 1:13 PM

To: 'Allison Hall-Jordan' <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Cc: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)

<Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: NWHW decade & checklist PDFs

Hi Alli –

OK—we'll go with your guidance and best practices on hyperlinks.

That said, the 30s PDF is good to place into SCP, yes?

TY,

Me

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 12:32 PM

To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>

Cc: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)

<Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: NWHW decade & checklist PDFs

Hi Jill,

Thanks for reviewing so quickly! I'm including some notes below. Please let me know if I didn't address any concerns or missed any questions.

- We can easily add hyperlinks to the decade icons. We'll move forward with this change.
- For the other hyperlinks, I got some guidance on best practices, and our recommendation is to leave them as is because the PDFs are designed to be printer-friendly versions of the content that lives on the website. When you have someone looking at the printout, you want to direct them back to the primary page where the content exists (womenshealth.gov/nwhw). As for someone who is looking at it online, the hyperlinks are colored distinctly to indicate they're clickable. We can add in the full URL, but we don't recommend it, as they're long and may break the current format of the PDF. The only URL we really want people to remember is womenshealth.gov/nwhw, and that appears in several places.
- Please know that we are prioritizing the checklists, and we will ensure that the PDF copy matches the web copy. Designing the PDF version is, unfortunately, not as easy as updating the web copy. Therefore, the process takes a little longer, and if we have to change the format of one of more of the checklists, that will add additional design time. We also have to make sure that we meet 508 compliance standards, which adds a few days.

Please let me how you'd like to handle the hyperlinks and if you have any questions.

Thanks!

Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>

Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 10:35 AM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Cc: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: NWHW decade & checklist PDFs

GM Alli –

- PDF for 30s looks great BUT PLEASE MAKE SURE THE CHECKLISTS MATCH THE WEB CHECKLISTS FOR EVERY PDF.
- Brooke told me hyperlinks should stay:
 - I don't think anything needs to be hyperlinked on 1st page, at least for the 30s PDF.
 - If we can, it would be nice to hyperlink all the decades on bottom—just in case anyone looking at it electronically. Then, they would be sent to our website. Win-win.
 - Hyperlinks on 2nd page of 30s PDF: the links should be hyperlinked, not the words, right? Talk to web team abt this and how best to show web addresses, please.
 - If you are pregnant, prenatal care can also be a well-woman visit. There are also certain tests (<https://www.womenshealth.gov/pregnancy/youre-pregnant-now-what/prenatal-care-and-tests#c>) during pregnancy to check your and your baby's health. Visit our Pregnancy section (<https://www.womenshealth.gov/pregnancy/>) to learn what you can do before, during, and after pregnancy to give your baby a healthy start to life and to take care of yourself, too.

- To me, this task—DECADE PDFs-- is a priority. The faster you send Brooke and I the PDFs, we can review. BUT AGAIN MY HOPE IS THAT SOMEONE OR TWO ARE MAKING SURE THE CHECKLISTS MATCH THE WEB CHECKLISTS FOR EVERY PDF.

Thank you,

Jill

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 5:54 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW decade & checklist PDFs

Hi Jill and Brooke,

Attached please find the 30s PDF for your review.

Jill, I'm waiting to hear back about best practices on hyperlinks. Personally, I think it's nice to have them if someone decides to distribute these electronically.

As for the timeline for the remaining PDFs, we expect to have the other seven decades to you next Friday morning. It would be great if we could get same-day feedback/approval, as the compliance process takes a couple of days. If you're able to do same-day approval, we think we may be able to get them up on the site by 5/4, but our goal is no later than 5/7.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks, and have a great weekend!
Alli

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 20, 2018 10:20 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: NWHW decade & checklist PDFs

Hi Alli –

Will you send me a timeline on the PDFs, please?

I want them up ASAP, but of course want them done well. I know you know this 😊 😊

I am speaking with the Regions on Tuesday and would love to have the 30's decade & checklist PDF to share with them. Regions are very anxious for handouts, as that is how they share with their networks.

Thanks,

Jill Lauren Wasserman, MPH
Health Education Specialist



OWH_logo_150

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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov
Main: 202.690.7650 | Direct: 202.260.9275
Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)
Telework Days: Wednesdays & Fridays

Sender:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
Recipient:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>
Sent Date:	2018/04/25 11:36:00
Delivered Date:	2018/04/25 11:36:03

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Womenshealth </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=cf209f3c3cd041df98351bb83190a839-Womenshealt>
Subject:	RE: Form submission from: Email OWH
Date:	2018/05/17 16:38:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Well that's annoying. I'm so sorry! I'll get back to you asap.

From: Womenshealth
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2018 4:35 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Email OWH
Importance: High

Hi Brooke,

The links to the Spanish BC Methods fact sheet on the Printables/Shareables and Reproductive Health pages are not working. They are linking to the English version. Can you or HS/Palladian provide the pdf version that I can send to Terry in the meantime?

Thanks!

AP

From: womenshealth.gov [<mailto:webdev@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2018 3:55 PM
To: Womenshealth <Womenshealth@hhs.gov>
Subject: Form submission from: Email OWH

Hello,
The contact us form on Womenshealth.gov was successfully submitted. Here are the contents of the form.

Name: Terry Luciano
Email: Terry.Luciano@CabarrusHealth.org
Topic: Website issues

Body: Under Printables and Shareables section, I can access birth control facts/options in English, however, when one clicks on the Spanish edition, the English version appears again. I am able to get emergency contraception in Spanish, just not birth control options. Thanks!

Thank you for your prompt attention,
Womenshealth.gov

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Womenshealth </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=cf209f3c3cd041df98351bb83190a839-Womenshealt>
Sent Date:	2018/05/17 16:38:23
Delivered Date:	2018/05/17 16:38:00

From:	Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39A84338D5C743FC9CD63A2FDAAEFCDB-BISHOP-CRAW>
To:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
CC:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: Rq for Comment
Date:	2018/04/03 09:45:19
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Ann can you please do so?
Thanks.

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2018 9:37 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Cc: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: FW: Rq for Comment

I am not aware of any HHS or NARA rules about announcing changes to websites.

Could check with the HHS Records Management lead to confirm, I guess. They would be the "last word" on record keeping.

From: Broido, Tara (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2018 8:43 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Fwd: Rq for Comment

Another one, not sure if Kate shared this one but there is a 1:00 PM deadline today.

Begin Forwarded Message:

From: "Shannon Firth" <s.firth@medpagetoday.com>
Subject: Re: Rq for Comment
Date: 02 April 2018 18:00
To: "Migliaccio, Kate (HHS/OASH)" <Kate.Migliaccio@hhs.gov>
Cc: "Broido, Tara (HHS/OASH)" <Tara.Broido@hhs.gov>

Hi Ms. Migliaccio, Ms. Broido,
Thank you for your note. I didn't receive your previous email. (No idea why but I will check Spam.)

I quoted a statement you gave to another reporter at Think Progress, but what I'd really like explained to me is whether there are strict rules about making changes to HHS websites and announcing them.

A blog post from the Sunlight Foundation on the earlier changes related to lesbian and bisexual health said this:

"These targeted removals have not been proactively communicated on the website publicly, **as is required by federal record keeping guidelines.**"

- Are there changes that HHS needs to make in terms of communicating "removals" to maintain compliance with federal record keeping guidelines?
- What do the federal record keeping guidelines say?

Thank you for any help you can offer. A response tomorrow (Tues.) before 1 pm would be great.

Shannon

On Mon, Apr 2, 2018 at 5:38 PM, Migliaccio, Kate (HHS/OASH)

<Kate.Migliaccio@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Shannon,

Did you get my previous email? It was sent at 12:26pm today.

Here is what I sent:

My colleague shared your contact details with me.

Please see below, this can attributed to an HHS spokesperson, but you'll see why it was necessary to update the website.

The pages were removed on December 6, 2017 because content was not mobile-friendly and very rarely used. For the users who come to womenshealth.gov for cancer information we have a page with general women's cancer information and links to the National Cancer Institute (NCI) at <https://www.womenshealth.gov/cancer>. Our sister HHS agencies, NCI and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have the same information in a much more user-friendly format on their websites.

Before we update any of the information on the [https://womenshealth.gov](http://womenshealth.gov) website, we engage in a comprehensive audit and use analysis process that includes reviewing other federal consumer health websites to ensure we are not duplicating efforts or presenting redundant information. Similarly, once the website [https://women.smokefree.gov](http://women.smokefree.gov) was launched, we removed the smoking information from our site because it was no longer necessary. Other sites within HHS that offer breast cancer coverage information include:

- <https://www.hrsa.gov/womens-guidelines-2016/index.html>
- <https://www.hrsa.gov/womens-guidelines/index.html>
- <https://www.healthcare.gov/preventive-care-women/>
- <https://www.cms.gov/CCIIOResources/Fact-Sheets-and-FAQs/womens-preven-02012013.html>

Free or low-cost screening information can be found at:

- CDC's National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP).
- CDC's basic breast cancer information on symptoms, treatment, and risk factors links to the NBCCEDP program. NCI also refers to this program on their Mammogram fact sheet.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kate Migliaccio Grabill, MPH
CDR, USPHS
Press Secretary

From: Shannon Firth [mailto:s.firth@medpagetoday.com]
Sent: Monday, April 02, 2018 5:36 PM
To: Migliaccio, Kate (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Re: Rq for Comment

Hi Ms. Migliaccio,

I'm following up because MedPage Today would still like to include HHS's perspective in our story about the changes to the Office of Women's Health website.

Would you be free for a quick call tomorrow morning? I'm reachable at [646-592-1664](tel:646-592-1664) and again, happy to phone you.

Thank you,
Shannon

On Mon, Apr 2, 2018 at 1:46 PM, Shannon Firth <s.firth@medpagetoday.com> wrote:
Hi Ms. Migliaccio,

I'm a reporter for MedPage Today. It's nice to meet you over email.

I received this [report](#) from the Sunlight Foundation regarding the removal of a breast cancer website and other related pages from the Office of Women's Health website.

I'm hoping that someone at HHS can explain whether or not the information in the report is accurate and why the site may have been taken down.

My deadline is today at 3 pm EST. Please let me know if you have a few minutes to address this issue. I'm reachable at [646-592-1664](tel:646-592-1664) and happy to phone you.

Thank you,
Shannon

--

Shannon Firth, Washington correspondent
MedPage Today LLC
tel. (b)(6) (mobile)
s.firth@medpagetoday.com
<http://www.medpagetoday.com>

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Shannon Firth, Washington correspondent
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tel. (b)(6) (mobile)
s.firth@medpagetoday.com
<http://www.medpagetoday.com>

--

Shannon Firth, Washington correspondent
MedPage Today LLC
tel. (b)(6) (mobile)
s.firth@medpagetoday.com
<http://www.medpagetoday.com>

Sender:	Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39A84338D5C743FC9CD63A2FDAAEFCD8-BISHOP-CRAW>
Recipient:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/04/03 09:45:18
Delivered Date:	2018/04/03 09:45:19

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Marciel, Kelli (NIH/NCI) [E] </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d24ff56112641858d05d400fb78f21c-kelli.marci>
Subject:	RE: Office on Women's Health breast cancer information
Date:	2018/04/05 16:00:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Here you go, let me know if you need anything else.

Dear [name],

Thank you for contacting the HHS Office on Women's Health and for sharing your feedback with us. We understand that you are concerned about the removal of breast cancer content on womenshealth.gov.

The breast cancer pages were removed because they were last updated in 2010 and the information was outdated. We still have our web pages on [mammograms](#) and [breast reconstruction after mastectomy](#).

We are in the process of adding breast cancer information to womenshealth.gov. Please note that the best place to learn about breast cancer and all other cancer types is the National Cancer Institute's website, cancer.gov.

Thank you again for contacting the HHS Office on Women's Health.

Sincerely,

From: Marciel, Kelli (NIH/NCI) [E] [mailto:kelli.marciel@nih.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 3:26 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: Office on Women's Health breast cancer information

Good to know. Many thanks!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 3:23 PM
To: Marciel, Kelli (NIH/NCI) [E] <kelli.marciel@nih.gov>
Subject: RE: Office on Women's Health breast cancer information

Just wanted you to know we're still working the clearance channels on the official response. We're almost there. Also, CDC is getting similar calls, so we'll be sending them the same response.

From: Marciel, Kelli (NIH/NCI) [E] [mailto:kelli.marciel@nih.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2018 12:31 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: Office on Women's Health breast cancer information
Importance: High

Hi Brooke,

I hope you don't mind - Becky Chasan shared your message below with me. As it happens, NIH has received a call from the member of the public who is quite upset about information having been taken down. She understands that it was HHS (not NIH/NCI) info that was removed, but is confused about the relationship between NIH and HHS.

We can call her back but first wanted to check with you in case someone at HHS is better positioned to respond. In addition, we would want to make sure we have the correct, ASPA-approved talking points.

I have a digital file of her voice message and can share that if helpful. We want to make sure she receives a call back today.

Thanks in advance,
Kelli

Kelli K. Marciel
Branch Chief, Correspondence and Clearance
Office of Communications and Public Liaison
National Cancer Institute
kelli.marciel@nih.gov (b)(6) (new)

From: "Chasan, Rebecca (NIH/NCI) [E]" <rchasan@mail.nih.gov>
Date: March 30, 2018 at 5:42:01 PM EDT
To: "Hatch, Shannon (NIH/NCI) [E]" <hatchsp@mail.nih.gov>
Cc: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: FW: Office on Women's Health breast cancer information

Hi Shannon,

Brooke contacted me about some inquiries the womenshealth.gov team has received about the removal of their breast cancer information. She wanted to let us know in case this generates any questions to NCI. So I'm sending on to make you aware!

She said to feel free to reach out to her anytime if needed.

Becky

From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, March 30, 2018 at 5:31 PM
To: "Chasan, Rebecca (NIH/NCI) [E]" <rchasan@mail.nih.gov>
Subject: FYI: Office on Women's Health breast cancer information

Here is the information I have, with the understanding that I am not the media person.

Reporters:

Megan Thielking, STAT News

Emma O'Connor, BuzzFeed News

Amanda Gomez, Think Progress

Here is the response that I think went forward to ASPA for their clearance before it was sent out by OASH Media folks:

The pages were removed on December 6, 2017 because content was not mobile-friendly and very rarely used. For the users who come to [womenshealth.gov](https://www.womenshealth.gov) for cancer information we have a page with general women's cancer information and links to the National Cancer Institute (NCI) at <https://www.womenshealth.gov/cancer>. Our sister HHS agencies, NCI and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have the same information in a much more user-friendly format on their websites. Before we update any of the information on the <https://www.womenshealth.gov> website, we engage in a comprehensive audit and use analysis process that includes reviewing other federal consumer health websites to ensure we are not duplicating efforts or presenting redundant information. Similarly, once the website <https://women.smokefree.gov> was launched, we removed the smoking information from our site because it was no longer necessary.

Other sites within HHS that offer breast cancer coverage information include:

- <https://www.hrsa.gov/womens-guidelines-2016/index.html>
- <https://www.hrsa.gov/womens-guidelines/index.html>
- <https://www.healthcare.gov/preventive-care-women/>
- <https://www.cms.gov/CCIIO/Resources/Fact-Sheets-and-FAQs/womens-preven-02012013.html>

Free or low-cost screening information can be found at:

- CDC's [National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program](#) (NBCCEDP).
- CDC's [basic breast cancer information](#) on symptoms, treatment, and risk factors links to the NBCCEDP program. NCI also refers to this program on their [Mammogram](#) fact sheet.

This Additional Information may also have been sent forward:

Additional information: OWH determined that the best use of taxpayer resources was to focus on other women's health issues that are not as well represented among other HHS offices and agencies. The <https://www.womenshealth.gov> website is a plain language, consumer health website with information written at the sixth- to eighth-grade reading level and it is not a policy-focused website.

Thanks for your help. I can be reached at any time on my cell at 301-542-9824.

Brooke

Brooke Leggin, MPH

Web Manager



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 732F.13, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: brooke.leggin@hhs.gov

Work Hours: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm ET

Main: 202-690-7650 | **Direct:** **M, Th, F** 202-205-2373 **T, W** 301-864-2607

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

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Recipient:	Marciel, Kelli (NIH/NCI) [E] </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=8d24ff56112641858d05d400fb78f21c-kelli.marci>
Sent Date:	2018/04/05 16:00:03
Delivered Date:	2018/04/05 16:00:00

From:	Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=AC73A58EE24044BC98C4DD74E24D8740-PHENIX, ADR>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: Form submission from: Email OWH
Date:	2018/05/21 13:02:23
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Awesome, thank you!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2018 1:01 PM
To: Womenshealth <Womenshealth@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Form submission from: Email OWH

This link has now been fixed! https://espanol.womenshealth.gov/img/hhswomenshealth/ES_4352.pdf

From: Womenshealth
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2018 4:35 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: FW: Form submission from: Email OWH
Importance: High

Hi Brooke,

The links to the Spanish BC Methods fact sheet on the Printables/Shareables and Reproductive Health pages are not working. They are linking to the English version. Can you or HS/Palladian provide the pdf version that I can send to Terry in the meantime?

Thanks!

AP

From: womenshealth.gov [<mailto:webdev@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2018 3:55 PM
To: Womenshealth <Womenshealth@hhs.gov>
Subject: Form submission from: Email OWH

Hello,
The contact us form on Womenshealth.gov was successfully submitted. Here are the contents of the form.

Name: Terry Luciano
Email: Terry.Luciano@CabarrusHealth.org
Topic: Website issues

Body: Under Printables and Shareables section, I can access birth control facts/options in English, however, when one clicks on the Spanish edition, the English version appears again. I am able to get emergency contraception in Spanish, just not birth control options. Thanks!

Thank you for your prompt attention,
Womenshealth.gov

Sender:	Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=AC73A58EE24044BC98C4DD74E24D8740-PHENIX, ADR>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/05/21 13:02:22
Delivered Date:	2018/05/21 13:02:23

From:	Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39A84338D5C743FC9CD63A2FDAAEFCDB-BISHOP-CRAW>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
Subject:	RE: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons
Date:	2018/05/16 15:20:30
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

I think that we can find a positive way of saying no we aren't going to link to them, but rather use other federal resources which we prefer to do. If there is a reasonable place in which we would consider linking to them, then let's consider doing so, otherwise, please politely decline their request.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 3:15 PM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>
Cc: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons

Unfortunately that's not exactly our policy and we link to .orgs in addition to .govs on most of our other pages.

The reconstruction fact sheet is not ours – it's NCI's.

From: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 3:12 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons

Brooke (and Jill),

We have an established policy of only linking to federal resources. Accordingly, we only need to reference that policy in the letter. As I indicated in my bullets, we are in the process of investigating other options for content, we only need to mention that we are in the process of seeking options and thank them for their offer. We can mention that we are willing to continue to work with them to update our breast cancer reconstruction options factsheet.

Please keep this response short, not a great amount of detail is needed.

Thanks,
Jenn

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 3:07 PM

To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons

The letter is a direct request to link to the <https://breast360.org> website. At first I thought I'd have no problem doing that. However, in the page where we'd link to them we ONLY link to federal agencies - <https://www.womenshealth.gov/cancer/breast-cancer#3>

I'd like to keep it that way because I don't have the resources on the web team to maintain links to all of the breast cancer groups, and this group addresses all types of breast conditions, not just cancer. And we don't list orgs for more information on the Reconstruction fs because it's NCI's fs and they do not link to other groups.

Please advise regarding the response to their request to "work with them" to identify information for breast cancer patients and to link to their site.

From: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)

Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 2:42 PM

To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Subject: FW: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons

Good afternoon, Ladies,

Just as an FYI, please see the attached letter. I'm waiting for the SWIFT to come, but I would like to assign drafting a brief response to you two. Key points of the response should include:

- Thank you for your interest
- OWH is committed to meeting the health communication needs of women
- Content removed because it was out of date and rarely used
- OWH is investigating how to input more detailed cancer content via syndication from other federal agencies

Rather than reinventing the wheel see if we can reuse any language we used from the last response we sent on this issue.

Thanks,
Jenn

From: Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH)

Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 2:29 PM

To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>

Subject: FW: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons

Nicole Greene
Acting Director
Deputy Director



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: Nicole.Greene@hhs.gov
Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-2614
Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](https://twitter.com/OWH) | [Facebook](https://facebook.com/OWH) | [YouTube](https://youtube.com/OWH)

From: Judith Gorsuch [<mailto:jgorsuch@hhs.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 16, 2018 1:33 PM
To: Azar, Alex (OS/IOS) <Alex.Azar@HHS.GOV>; Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH) <Nicole.Greene@hhs.gov>
Subject: Letter from the American Society of Breast Surgeons

Dear Secretary Azar and Acting Director Greene:

On behalf of the American Society of Breast Surgeons (ASBrS), please find attached a letter related to recently removed information on breast cancer from the Office on Women's Health website. ASBrS thanks you for reinstating some of the information and would like to work with you to identify additional sources of information that would be useful to breast cancer patients and their families.

Thank you,
Judith

Judith Gorsuch, J.D.
Counsel
Hart Health Strategies, Inc.
c: (202) 302-4354
jgorsuch@hhs.com
www.hhs.com

Sender:	Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39A84338D5C743FC9CD63A2FDAAEFCDB-BISHOP-CRAW>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
Sent Date:	2018/05/16 15:20:28
Delivered Date:	2018/05/16 15:20:30

From:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
To:	Allison Hall-Jordan (AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com) <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
CC:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ac73a58ee24044bc98c4dd74e24d8740-Phenix, Adr>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: NWHW Website Review Links
Date:	2018/04/18 14:05:50
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Alli –

1. <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/tools/social-media>

Can we add #NWHW after the #WhatIWishIdKnown? If that is OK social media etiquette, we need to make sure we are consistent in our other content and materials where this comes up (e.g., toolkit).

Share your best health advice.

We're asking women to share their wisdom with women of other generations. No matter your age, you can share valuable health lessons and inspire others to take actionable steps to improve their current and future health. Share your "What I wish I'd known" story on social media using #WhatIWishIdKnown #NWHW

2. <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/about> I'd like to be able to click on the NWHW fact sheet from this page. Doesn't that make good sense?

Once these two items are discussed and taken care of, I think we are good to go on going live.

We meet with Tara tomorrow so I plan to ask about the quiz—might go to her office before our meeting to ask.

Items that you are aware that we need to get into SCP:

- (1) Printer-friendly PDFs for each decade —once done and in SCP, those can go live.
- (2) Infocards, etc. for social media.

Thanks,

Me

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]

Sent: Friday, April 13, 2018 10:46 AM

To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: NWHW Website Review Links

- We removed all mentions of the quiz from the site, including from the left nav. We can easily add them back in once it's approved.
- We uploaded the approved social media language, but we're still waiting on the Thunderclap link. When mentioned, you'll see that there either isn't a link or it links to the old Thunderclap page. Once we get approval on the CTP from Ann, we can create the 2018 Thunderclap and upload the new link.
- The quiz has its own review link.
- We're still working on share buttons for the quiz. They'll end up looking a lot like the share buttons on the blog.
- Please note that the quiz disclaimer is beneath the quiz, per your request.

Review link: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw>

Quiz link: <https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/quiz/>

ALLISON HALL-JORDAN

Account Supervisor

1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
D 202.706.7439



cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226

Sender:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
Recipient:	Allison Hall-Jordan (AHallJordan@hagersharp.com) <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ac73a58ee24044bc98c4dd74e24d8740-Phenix, Adr>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/04/18 14:05:49
Delivered Date:	2018/04/18 14:05:50

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Thompson, Cheryl (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d177127087f34cc1834ed6e8eb9836dd-Thompson, C>
CC:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Breast Reconstruction Information from ASPSPFW: NWHW Toolkit for Health Professionals
Date:	2017/05/31 07:45:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thanks Cheryl, this is super helpful. I'm happy to have you continue working with Jessica/ASPS 😊 Regarding our WH.gov website (Candace can speak to social media) – we probably wouldn't be able to post any of the ASPS materials on our site, since we wouldn't do that for other non-profit groups. But if Val is able to do a blog or Spotlight interview with one of the folks that would be good.

Candace said she's willing to reuse the social media images we used in 2016, so I think we have that angle covered.

I'm still waiting to hear back from the NCI person about the [new findings released by the FDA](#) in March that links a very rare type of cancer with implants. I'm trying to find out if NCI is planning to update their fact sheet on reconstruction because of this new information, or if the cancer risk is so small that it's not on their radar.

I'll let you both know if I hear anything new. Thanks.

Brooke

From: Thompson, Cheryl (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, May 30, 2017 5:39 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: Breast Reconstruction Information from ASPSPFW: NWHW Toolkit for Health Professionals

Hi,

The notes below reflect a conversation I had with both Jessica and Adam prior to NWHW. I am sending along another email from Adam shortly that has a little more information. Let's discuss and then schedule a follow up call with them. Brooke this is your area, so please feel free to take the lead. I am only leading where health providers/professionals are involved.

Thanks.

Cheryl J. Thompson, MSPH
Public Health Advisor/Regional Women's Health Liaison



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: cheryl.thompson@hhs.gov

Telework: Wednesday and Friday

Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-2551

From: Jessica Frasco [<mailto:jfrasco@plasticsurgery.org>]

Sent: Wednesday, May 10, 2017 12:15 PM

To: Thompson, Cheryl (OS/OASH)

Cc: Adam Ross

Subject: RE: NWHW Toolkit for Health Professionals

Cheryl,

Great speaking with you today! I've copied Adam who will be in touch with greater detail on:

- National Women's Health Week (May 14-20)
 - Patient testimonial video for the OWH social media
 - Physician testimonial video for the health professionals digest
 - ASPS will generate social media content for May 14-20 to support NWHW. ASPS will also engage the Alliance of Specialty Medicine to encourage those physician organizations to post material.*
- Breast Reconstruction Awareness (Fall 2017)
 - PSA
 - Satellite Media Tour
 - Corresponding HHS spotlight blog featuring Dr. Johnson and the patient
 - Existing ASPS/PSF collateral that can be used to create unique materials for OWH and sister office websites
 - Possible reuse of patient testimonial video featuring Hispanic and African-American patients

Look forward to working closely with the Office of Women's Health on providing greater health awareness throughout the United States.

Jessica

Jessica Frasco

Advocacy Project Manager

American Society of Plastic Surgeons

jfrasco@plasticsurgery.org

w: 847-228-3392

(b)(6)



728x90

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Thompson, Cheryl (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d177127087f34cc1834ed6e8eb9836dd-Thompson, C>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/05/31 07:45:21
Delivered Date:	2017/05/31 07:45:00

From:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
To:	Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Subject:	RE: The Quitting Smoking section
Date:	2018/04/03 13:37:16
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thank you, Chuck.

Much appreciated,

Jill

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com]
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2018 7:57 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Emily Dammeyer
Subject: RE: The Quitting Smoking section

Hi Jill,

The full set of smoking content that has existed on Womenshealth.gov in the past few years consists of the following pages, which include the old "Smoking and How to Quit" sub-section and some subpages within other content areas:

- <https://www.womenshealth.gov/smoking-how-to-quit/index.html> (removed at some time between April and June of 2015)
- <https://www.womenshealth.gov/statistics/statistics-by-topic/smoking.html> (removed 10/26/2016)
- <https://www.womenshealth.gov/aging/wellness/quitting-smoking.html> (removed 05/19/2017)
- <https://www.womenshealth.gov/minority-health/pacific-islanders/smoking.html> (removed 05/19/2017)
- <https://www.womenshealth.gov/minority-health/latinas/smoking.html> (removed 05/19/2017)
- <https://www.womenshealth.gov/minority-health/american-indians/smoking.html> (removed 05/19/2017)
- <https://www.womenshealth.gov/minority-health/african-americans/smoking.html> (removed 05/19/2017)

Explanations/justifications for the removal of each of the above track with OWH's multi-year project of maintaining and updating a website with unique, relevant, and up-to-date women's health information. Specifics follow:

- As mentioned in OWH's response on Friday, "Smoking and How to Quit" was removed in 2015 because the presence of <https://women.smokefree.gov>, which provided better and more up-to-date content, meant that at best, OWH's general content on this subject would be redundant with another government source. As a result, the URL for this page now redirects users directly to <https://women.smokefree.gov>.
- "Statistics" in its entirety was removed in late 2016 as part of the removal of drastically outdated content, which also included the Emergency Preparedness content area and Organ Donation fact sheet. The Statistics section was specifically removed because the presence of the Quick Health Data Online website made it redundant. At the time, its page on smoking was redirected to the Healthy Aging page listed here.
- In May 2017, a suite of outdated and non-responsive content areas were removed the site as part of general ongoing efforts to maintain up-to-date and accessible information on Womenshealth.gov. This included the entirety of the Minority Health and Healthy Aging sections, which included the only remaining pages on WH.gov that included smoking information. The Healthy Aging sub-page was redirected to <https://women.smokefree.gov>, which remains our standard outbound link for smoking-related health information.

Hopefully this covers everything; let me know if you need any additional details on timing or context.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>

Sent: Monday, April 2, 2018 5:05 PM

To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>

Cc: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn

<eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: The Quitting Smoking section

Thank you, Chuck.

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 02, 2018 4:18 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Elizabeth Osborn; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: The Quitting Smoking section

Hi Jill,

I'll collect as many specifics (dates + specific context) as I can and report back to you first thing tomorrow morning.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

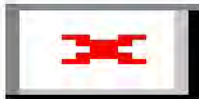
8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) [<mailto:Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, April 02, 2018 4:03 PM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: The Quitting Smoking section
Importance: High

Hi Chuck!

We have a Newsweek reporter asking us to clarify the highlighted statement here as part of an response we provided on Friday: *Before we update any of the information on the <https://womenshealth.gov>*

website, we engage in a comprehensive audit and use analysis process that includes reviewing other federal consumer health websites to ensure we are not duplicating efforts or presenting redundant information. Similarly, once the website <https://women.smokefree.gov> was launched, we removed the smoking information from our site because it was no longer necessary.

She asked this: Wanted to clarify, you mentioned the smoking information from the site that was removed- I wanted to see what specific information you meant with that?

Are you able to tell us details on what specific information this included in our Quitting Smoking Section, and date it was removed , please? The more specifics, the better.

If you need until tomorrow morning, that's fine.

Thanks,

Jill Lauren Wasserman, MPH
Health Education Specialist



OWH_logo_150

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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
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E-mail: Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov

Main: 202.690.7650 | Direct: 202.260.9275

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Telework Days: Wednesdays & Fridays

Sender:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
Recipient:	Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Sent Date:	2018/04/03 13:37:14
Delivered Date:	2018/04/03 13:37:16

From:	Ceinos, Gustavo (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=2ACFC0CBF99243F18AA76C4D9C6014ED-SEINOS, GUS>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	FW: Connecting again in Washington DC
Date:	2017/05/12 15:11:42
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Brooke. I asked Solve CFS (one of the leading organizations on ME/CFS and a member of CFSAC) to look at the OWH webpage on CFS and provide us with suggestions and updates as to which of the agencies we list on the website are still in operation. I also asked for suggestion as to how we can make that webpage more accurate regarding the illness. These are Solve CFS' suggestions. Would it be possible to update the webpage to reflect the changes made in the attached document? Thanks!

From: Emily Taylor [mailto:ETaylor@solvecfs.org]
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 11:55 PM
To: Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI); Ceinos, Gustavo (OS/OASH)
Cc: Carol Head
Subject: Connecting again in Washington DC

Dear Beth and Gustavo –

I hope this message finds you both doing well! My sincerest apologies that I was unable to join your meeting in March with Carol. However, I hear that it was a wonderful conversation. I wanted to reach out to you on two items.

First, as requested, attached is a quick review of the content of the Chronic Fatigue Syndrome page on Womenshealth.gov and the accompanying fact sheet.

I hope this information is helpful. How was the response to the FAQ? We unfortunately did not have the capacity to do a full-court press to get the request out into the community and relied on other channels to spread the word. I hope you received a strong response, but I imagine it was not overwhelming.

Secondly, Carol and I will be traveling to DC again for “ME/CFS Advocacy Week” and we would love to meet with you and we would love to continue the conversation with you about moving CFSAC and our work forward. We have availability the afternoon of Tuesday May 16th. Please let me know if you would like to connect, but we understand if the limited time frame makes it difficult.

We can schedule a phone call at a later date if the timing does not work out. As always, we are excited for the opportunity to work with you both and assist in making progress within the agencies for ME/CFS, even in these uncertain times.

All the best,



Emily Taylor

Director of Advocacy and Public Relations

Solve ME/CFS Initiative

p: 704-364-0016 ext. 209

w: www.SolveCFS.org

[Donate to Solve ME/CFS Initiative](#)

Working to make ME/CFS widely understood, diagnosable, and treatable

Sender:	Ceinos, Gustavo (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=2ACFC0CBF99243F18AA76C4D9C6014ED-SEINOS, GUS>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2017/05/12 15:11:41
Delivered Date:	2017/05/12 15:11:42

From:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
To:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
CC:	Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: Ages and stages PDFs
Date:	2018/05/04 09:59:01
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

RIGHT ☺ ☺

Each decade gets it's own title.

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 9:57 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

My question was "will we change the title on each page?" since I assume the checklist is different on each page.

So we're not calling it "your 20's checklist" on the 50's page. Right?

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 9:54 AM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

I'm not sure I'm understanding your question, Ann.

If we can fit National Women's Health Week Checklist: Your 20s and it looks clean and how the whole website looks, then yes go for it. If we need to shorten it, we could do NWHW Checklist: Your 20s OR to make it evergreen, how about Your 20s Checklist?

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:48 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

<Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Would you specify the decade in relation to the page? So only put "your 20's" on the 20's page? If not, then just title it "National Women's Health Week Checklist"

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]

Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 8:53 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn

Subject: Re: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi there,

We can update the left nav to match the other fact sheets without a problem. What would you like the title of the PDFs to be? What do you think about this: "National Women's Health Week Checklist: Your 20s"?

Also, we can easily change the icon text at the bottom of the page. We'll make sure it says, "Print your checklist."

Thanks!

Alli

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 3, 2018 4:25:39 PM

To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Allison Hall-Jordan

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn

Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

As much as possible, the NWHW pages need to FUNCTION in the same way the rest of the website does – so please let that guide your decision making also.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)

Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:15 PM

To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

I'd like them there too—b/c there are ppl who will read the list all the way to the bottom and then BAM. They see the print your checklist option. We cover all bases.

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)

Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:14 PM

To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan

<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

I just talked with Brooke, and she agrees with Jill's suggestion below.

If we put the pdf in the left nav the way it is on the page mentioned below do we need the "print your checklist" links?

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)

Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:02 PM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Elizabeth Osborn

Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi Alli –

I want Brooke to comment and I think she is offline for the day.

But I'm not thrilled with these options. Here are my thoughts:

- I want both options but:
- I'd like these decade checklist to be more prominent, clean and official looking –like how we highlight the NWHW fact sheet here in the left nav:
<https://www.womenshealth.gov/nwhw/about>. Is that possible? We put a lot of work into these and they are wanted items, let's show them off. If we can go this route, we will need to think what we name these...National Women's Health Week checklist for 20s, National Women's Health Week 20s checklist, etc.
- If we can do both, the below the checklist option can stay as is **but** the text should read "Print your checklist".

Jill

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]

Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 3:06 PM

To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi Jill and Brooke,

For the checklist PDFs, I have a quick question about implementation. Where exactly do you want us to add the print link? If you go to the preview site's "your 20s" page, you'll see two potential options:
<https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/by-age/your-20s>

The options are as follows:

- In the left nav
- Below the checklist content as per the previous years' "print your list" option

Please let me know which of these works for you (or if it's both). Sounds like Palladian should be able to roll this out quickly once they know how to proceed.

Thanks!
Alli

ALLISON HALL-JORDAN

Account Supervisor

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WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
D 202.706.7439



cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226

Sender:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN, >
Recipient:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/05/04 09:58:57
Delivered Date:	2018/05/04 09:59:01

From:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
To:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
CC:	Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: Ages and stages PDFs
Date:	2018/05/04 09:58:24
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

We're able change the title on each page, so if we include decades, the decade will match the decade on the page.

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 9:57 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

My question was "will we change the title on each page?" since I assume the checklist is different on each page.

So we're not calling it "your 20's checklist" on the 50's page. Right?

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 9:54 AM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

I'm not sure I'm understanding your question, Ann.

If we can fit National Women's Health Week Checklist: Your 20s and it looks clean and how the whole website looks, then yes go for it. If we need to shorten it, we could do NWHW Checklist: Your 20s OR to make it evergreen, how about Your 20s Checklist?

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:48 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Would you specify the decade in relation to the page? So only put "your 20's" on the 20's page? If not, then just title it "National Women's Health Week Checklist"

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 8:53 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: Re: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi there,

We can update the left nav to match the other fact sheets without a problem. What would you like the title of the PDFs to be? What do you think about this: "National Women's Health Week Checklist: Your 20s"?

Also, we can easily change the icon text at the bottom of the page. We'll make sure it says, "Print your checklist."

Thanks!
Alli

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 3, 2018 4:25:39 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

As much as possible, the NWHW pages need to FUNCTION in the same way the rest of the website does – so please let that guide your decision making also.

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Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
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To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
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Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

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I want Brooke to comment and I think she is offline for the day.

But I'm not thrilled with these options. Here are my thoughts:

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Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 3:06 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
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- In the left nav
- Below the checklist content as per the previous years' "print your list" option

Please let me know which of these works for you (or if it's both). Sounds like Palladian should be able to roll this out quickly once they know how to proceed.

Thanks!
Alli

ALLISON HALL-JORDAN
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D 202.706.7439



cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226

Sender:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Recipient:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/05/04 09:57:53
Delivered Date:	2018/05/04 09:58:24

From:	Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
CC:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>
Subject:	Re: Someone wrote to us about the Diabetes stats....
Date:	2018/04/25 09:32:57
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thanks, Brooke,

Sure, we'll take a closer look, come back to you with any questions and otherwise get this update in the queue.

Best,
Tara.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2928
e: tr Rodgers@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



id:image001.png@01D3799B.0CABBDF0

From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 9:08 AM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, "Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com)" <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, "Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com)"

<LSalay@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: Someone wrote to us about the Diabetes stats....

Hello,

One of our website users pointed out a broken link in the Sources on the Diabetes page. Since the broken link was citation #1 that linked to the CDC for the prevalence of diabetes among U.S. women, I'd prefer to just update the statistic and the link at the same time. The broken link is the CDC's Diabetes report from 2014. The most recent report they have is from 2017 so I'd like to update it while we're fixing things.

Can you change in the masthead

More than 13 million women have diabetes, or about one in 10 women ages 20 and older.¹

To this update:

About 15 million U.S. women have diabetes, or about one in every 9 adult women.¹

And then the citation would be: 1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2017). [National Diabetes Statistics Report, 2017](#). The "1 in 9" number is squishy depending on if you look at crude or age-adjusted. I prefer the age-adjusted percentage which is 10.8 versus the 11.7 crude percentage of women with diagnosed and undiagnosed diabetes. So that's why I said "about"....

And then the answer to the question "Do women of color need to worry about diabetes?" will also need to be updated. I've attached suggested text for that. Can you incorporate the sources correctly into the source list on the fact sheet?

Feel free to suggest edits to my edits if you think they're needed. Thanks.

Brooke

Brooke Leggin, MPH

Web Manager



Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 732F.13, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: brooke.leggin@hhs.gov

Work Hours: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm ET

Main: 202-690-7650 | **Direct:** M, Th, F 202-205-2373 T, W 301-864-2607

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>
Sent Date:	2018/04/25 09:32:07
Delivered Date:	2018/04/25 09:32:57

From:	Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagerssharp.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>
Subject:	RE: New Spanish Language content and PDFs?
Date:	2018/05/08 08:53:33
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Brooke,

Per our conversation yesterday, please find below the numbers requested. Let me know if you need anything else.

From January to March to following PDFs and factsheets/content areas were translated:

PDFs: 11

Factsheets/Content areas: 9

Best,
Pam

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov]
Sent: Monday, May 7, 2018 2:22 PM
To: Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: New Spanish Language content and PDFs?

Hi Pam – thank you SO much for showing me this! I never look at that part of the MSR, so knowing that it's already there and I'm not adding to your workload is awesome! So, the check mark indicates that it was actually done even though it's under that "Planned" category? I just have to report how many new publications we have, so my numbers are not concerned with whether it was "on-time" or not....

From: Pam Nieto [mailto:PNieto@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2018 2:16 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: New Spanish Language content and PDFs?

Hi Brooke,

Yes, I can definitely send this to you by tomorrow.

In regards to your request, I do add this information to the MSR under Task 1. I usually specify if we are translating a PDF or fact sheet. If you think it will be better to add it under Task 4, next to the other website info, I'm happy to do that.

See below the information I added for January. Let me know if this is what you are requesting or if you need more information.

Activities Planned for the Month

- • Hold monthly meeting on January 11, 2018. ✓
- • Submit December monthly status report on January 16, 2018.* ✓
- • Submit monthly meeting minutes by January 19, 2018.* ✓
- • Translate the following content areas, factsheets, and PDFs:
 - • Menstrual Cycle and Menopause PDF ✓
 - • Relationships and Safety PDF ✓
 - • Pelvic organ prolapse PDF ✓
 - • UTI factsheet ✓
 - • Asthma factsheet ✓
 - • Graves' Disease factsheet ✓
- • Resources' link redirection to Spanish counterparts (ongoing) ✓

Activities Planned for Next Month

- • Hold monthly meeting on February 8, 2018.
- • Submit January monthly status report on February 15, 2018.*
- • Submit monthly meeting minutes by February 15, 2018.*
- • Translate the following content areas, factsheets, and PDFs:
 - • Insomnia PDF
 - • Asthma PDF
 - • Oral health PDF
- • Resources' link redirection to Spanish counterparts (ongoing)

Best,
Pam

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Monday, May 7, 2018 1:35 PM

To: Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagerssharp.com>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>;
Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>

Subject: New Spanish Language content and PDFs?

Hi Pam,

Can you go back through the MotionPoint records to tell me how many new or updated Spanish-language content areas/fact sheets/PDFs were published in the first quarter of the year (Jan, Feb

&Mar)? This is for some GRPA reporting that is due by May 15th. Also, if this information could be added to the MSR in the future then that would be most helpful. Currently the MSR lists the new content areas and fact sheets that are published in English on Womenshealth.gov so maybe it could be added to that?

Thanks.
Brooke

Brooke Leggin, MPH
Web Manager



cid:image001.jpg@01D3E60E.7B904760

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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 732F.13, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: brooke.leggin@hhs.gov
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Main: 202-690-7650 | **Direct:** M, Th, F 202-205-2373 T, W 301-864-2607

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagersharp.com>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>
Sent Date:	2018/05/08 08:52:30
Delivered Date:	2018/05/08 08:53:33

From:	Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Subject:	Re: Someone wrote to us about the Diabetes stats....
Date:	2018/05/24 09:47:23
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Brooke,

Attached are recommended edits to the diabetes section following up on your inquiries. I reviewed the OMB requirements on race and ethnicity (a helpful summary is [here](#); and the original PDF report [here](#)); I also checked each of the studies referenced to make sure we are referring accurately to demographic groups referenced in the findings.

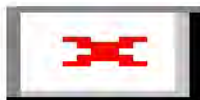
It will be good to hear your feedback! We'd also like to discuss this at an upcoming writing meeting, with the goals of adding some guidelines on race and ethnicity to the style guide and making sure we're consistent across the site.

Thanks,
Tara.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2928
e: trodgers@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



id:image001.png@01D3799B.0CABBDF0

From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, May 4, 2018 at 8:51 AM

To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, "Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com)" <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, "Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com)" <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: RE: Someone wrote to us about the Diabetes stats....

Thanks, these edits to my edits look good! I have only two thoughts:

- I want to keep the language about the vastly different rates in native Alaskans versus Native Americans in the Southwest. I imagine that this information is of great interest to people who are part of either group, not researchers. Also, because the two groups are very different geographically I think it's an important distinction.
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From: Tara Rodgers [mailto:TRodgers@palladianpartners.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:16 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: Re: Someone wrote to us about the Diabetes stats....

Hi Brooke,

We do have some suggested edits to your edits – please see attached and we'll go from there.

Thanks,
Tara.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2928
e: tr Rodgers@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 9:08 AM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, "Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com)" <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, "Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com)" <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>
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Can you change in the masthead

More than 13 million women have diabetes, or about one in 10 women ages 20 and older.¹

To this update:

About 15 million U.S. women have diabetes, or about one in every 9 adult women.¹

And then the citation would be: 1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2017). [National Diabetes Statistics Report, 2017](#). The "1 in 9" number is squishy depending on if you look at crude or age-adjusted. I prefer the age-adjusted percentage which is 10.8 versus the 11.7 crude percentage of women with diagnosed and undiagnosed diabetes. So that's why I said "about"....

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Feel free to suggest edits to my edits if you think they're needed. Thanks.

Brooke

Brooke Leggin, MPH

Web Manager



id:image002.jpg@01D3E384.23618C20

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 732F.13, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: brooke.leggin@hhs.gov

Work Hours: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm ET

Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: M, Th, F 202-205-2373 T, W 301-864-2607

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Sent Date:	2018/05/24 09:40:35
Delivered Date:	2018/05/24 09:47:23

From:	Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Subject:	Re: Someone wrote to us about the Diabetes stats....
Date:	2018/05/04 11:37:52
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thanks, Brooke! We'll take a look into the OMB requirement and get back to you on that question soon.

-Tara.

From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, May 4, 2018 at 8:51 AM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>, Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, "Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com)" <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, "Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com)" <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>, Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
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Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:16 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Sheryl Rhoads

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Web Content Manager

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Brooke

Brooke Leggin, MPH

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OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

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Sender:	Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Sent Date:	2018/05/04 11:36:12
Delivered Date:	2018/05/04 11:37:52

From:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B7C3FE81D0034E96A174A52966EE06BC-ABERCROMBIE>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: Ages and stages PDFs
Date:	2018/05/04 08:44:28
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Sure. stop multitasking ☺

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 8:32 AM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: FW: Ages and stages PDFs

I'm not sure what Alli means below and am having trouble multitasking. Can you give her feedback on this?

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 8:53 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: Re: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi there,

We can update the left nav to match the other fact sheets without a problem. What would you like the title of the PDFs to be? What do you think about this: "National Women's Health Week Checklist: Your 20s"?

Also, we can easily change the icon text at the bottom of the page. We'll make sure it says, "Print your checklist."

Thanks!
Alli

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 3, 2018 4:25:39 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

As much as possible, the NWHW pages need to FUNCTION in the same way the rest of the website does – so please let that guide your decision making also.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:15 PM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

I'd like them there too—b/c there are ppl who will read the list all the way to the bottom and then BAM. They see the print your checklist option. We cover all bases.

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:14 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

I just talked with Brooke, and she agrees with Jill's suggestion below.

If we put the pdf in the left nav the way it is on the page mentioned below do we need the "print your checklist" links?

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi Alli –

I want Brooke to comment and I think she is offline for the day.

But I'm not thrilled with these options. Here are my thoughts:

- I want both options but:
- I'd like these decade checklist to be more prominent, clean and official looking –like how we highlight the NWHW fact sheet here in the left nav:
<https://www.womenshealth.gov/nwhw/about>. Is that possible? We put a lot of work into these and they are wanted items, let's show them off. If we can go this route, we will need to think what we name these...National Women's Health Week checklist for 20s, National Women's Health Week 20s checklist, etc.
- If we can do both, the below the checklist option can stay as is **but** the text should read "Print your checklist".

Jill

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 3:06 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) <Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: Ages and stages PDFs

Hi Jill and Brooke,

For the checklist PDFs, I have a quick question about implementation. Where exactly do you want us to add the print link? If you go to the preview site's "your 20s" page, you'll see two potential options:
<https://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/by-age/your-20s>

The options are as follows:

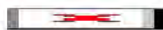
- In the left nav
- Below the checklist content as per the previous years' "print your list" option

Please let me know which of these works for you (or if it's both). Sounds like Palladian should be able to roll this out quickly once they know how to proceed.

Thanks!
Alli

ALLISON HALL-JORDAN
Account Supervisor

1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
D 202.706.7439



cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226

Sender:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B7C3FE81D0034E96A174A52966EE06BC-ABERCROMBIE>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/05/04 08:44:26
Delivered Date:	2018/05/04 08:44:28

From:	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services <cmslists@subscriptions.cms.hhs.gov>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	CMS Administrator Verma Unveils New Strategy to Fuel Data-driven Patient Care, Transparency
Date:	2018/04/26 17:20:22
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note



Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

CMS NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 26, 2018

Contact: CMS Media Relations
(202) 690-6145 | [CMS Media Inquiries](#)

CMS Administrator Verma Unveils New Strategy to Fuel Data-driven Patient Care, Transparency *New Medicare Advantage data resource released*

Today, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Seema Verma announced the agency's new Data Driven Patient Care Strategy as part of the [MyHealthEData](#) initiative at the ninth annual Health Datapalooza conference in Washington, D.C. The strategy positions CMS to further support industry innovation in unleashing the power of data to inform patients' healthcare decisions and transform the healthcare system by enhancing security and privacy, improving quality, increasing efficiency, and reducing costs.

In March 2018, the Trump Administration announced MyHealthEData, a government-wide initiative spearheaded by the White House Office of American Innovation, designed to help patients access and share their medical data throughout their healthcare journey while ensuring they are empowered to make

decisions about when to share it, keeping their information secure and private.

As the latest effort under MyHealthEData, the Data Driven Patient Care Strategy is based on three critical cornerstones: putting patients first, making more data available and taking an “application programming interface (API)-approach” to exchanging data in a secure and private manner with CMS partners in the spirit of improving healthcare for all beneficiaries. These cornerstone principles are reflected in the data initiatives CMS is announcing today and other federal efforts underway to improve the nation’s healthcare system through data innovation.

“We know we can’t achieve value-based care until we put the patient at the center of our healthcare system,” Administrator Verma said. “The Data Driven Patient Care Strategy will empower patients with the information they need as consumers of healthcare to enable them to make informed decisions about the care they need. Ultimately, the cornerstone of a patient-centered system is data—quality data, cost data and a patient’s own data.”

Additionally, as part of CMS’ commitment to data-driven innovation, Administrator Verma announced Medicare Advantage encounter data is now available to researchers for the first time, and annual updates are planned. Release of the Medicare Advantage encounter data will provide researchers insight into care delivered under Medicare Advantage and permit research that will improve the Medicare program.

Expanded Access to Encounter Data

CMS is expanding data available to researchers starting with 2015 Medicare Advantage (MA) encounter data, which provides detailed information about services to beneficiaries enrolled in a Medicare Advantage managed care plan in calendar year 2015. Researchers already have access to Medicare claims data for the fee-for-service program, and this release of MA data will provide a fuller picture of care provided to Medicare beneficiaries.

CMS also plans to release data from Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) next year, realizing such data has the potential to facilitate research that will help drive innovation and competition in the healthcare system and, ultimately, help doctors and patients make the best decisions about care.

“Data has the potential to help produce better, more targeted treatments for patients, improving their quality of life while at the same time reducing costs,” Administrator Verma said.

For more information or to request encounter data, please visit the CMS Research Data Assistance Center website at www.resdac.org.

More CMS Efforts to Unleash the Power of Data

Today’s data-related announcements follow and build on several ongoing initiatives the Trump Administration launched earlier this year to put patients’ health information into their own hands and make healthcare data more useful to consumers:

- [*Blue Button 2.0*](#): As part of MyHealthEData, CMS in March 2018 launched Blue Button 2.0, which allows Medicare beneficiaries to take charge of their own claims data by providing it to them

in a universal, secure digital format. Blue Button 2.0 is a developer-friendly, standards-based API enabling beneficiaries to connect their claims data to the applications, services and research programs they choose.

- *Promoting Interoperability:* CMS, in the [proposed hospital payment rule](#) issued this week, announced plans to overhaul the Medicare and Medicaid Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Programs, which are now known as the Promoting Interoperability programs. CMS has proposed to focus the program requirements on EHR interoperability and providing patients with electronic access to their health information, so data follows the patient and consumers can take ownership of and access their records in a useable format.

The Administrator's remarks at the 2018 Health Datapalooza will be available after her speech at: <https://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Press-releases/2018-Press-releases-items/2018-04-26-2.html>

A fact sheet on the CMS Data Driven Patient Care Strategy is available at: <https://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Fact-sheets/2018-Fact-sheets-items/2018-04-26.html>

###

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This email was sent to brooke.leggin@hhs.gov using GovDelivery Communications Cloud 7500 Security Boulevard - Baltimore MD 21244

Sender:	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services <cmslists@subscriptions.cms.hhs.gov>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/04/26 17:18:41
Delivered Date:	2018/04/26 17:20:22

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To:	Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
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Subject:	RE: Spanish-language Birth Control PDF is MIA
Date:	2018/05/21 13:00:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thank you!

From: Emily Dammeyer [mailto:EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com]
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2018 1:00 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Spanish-language Birth Control PDF is MIA

Hi Brooke,
Pam followed up with MotionPoint and had them update the link on their end to go to the right page. It's now been fixed.

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

From: Emily Dammeyer
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2018 9:08 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; owh1 <owh@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Spanish-language Birth Control PDF is MIA

Hi Brooke,
Just wanted to let you know that we're working on this. I sent it along to Pam, as it's something that we'll need MotionPoint to address.

See you in a bit.

Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2018 4:40 PM
To: owh1 <owh@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: Spanish-language Birth Control PDF is MIA
Importance: High

Can someone send me the Spanish-language Birth Control fact sheet? It's hyperlinked in several different places on the site but when you click on it it only goes to the English PDF. A website user emailed us asking for it.....

Brooke Leggin, MPH
Web Manager



Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 732F.13, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: brooke.leggin@hhs.gov
Work Hours: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm ET
Main: 202-690-7650 | **Direct:** M, Th, F 202-205-2373 T, W 301-864-2607

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Emily Dammeyer < EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com >; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) < eosborn@hagerssharp.com >; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) < LSalay@hagerssharp.com >;

	Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagersharp.com>
Sent Date:	2018/05/21 13:01:00
Delivered Date:	2018/05/21 13:00:00

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
CC:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Subject:	RE: Someone wrote to us about the Diabetes stats....
Date:	2018/05/04 08:51:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thanks, these edits to my edits look good! I have only two thoughts:

- I want to keep the language about the vastly different rates in native Alaskans versus Native Americans in the Southwest. I imagine that this information is of great interest to people who are part of either group, not researchers. Also, because the two groups are very different geographically I think it's an important distinction.
- Regarding referring to AIAN people as AI/AN or AI **and** Alaska Native – I agree with you that the AND is better, but it seems like the CDC uses the slash and I think the slash is from the OMB minimally required reporting categories – which is what we follow. Can you look up the OMB requirement?

From: Tara Rodgers [mailto:TRodgers@palladianpartners.com]

Sent: Thursday, May 03, 2018 4:16 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>

Subject: Re: Someone wrote to us about the Diabetes stats....

Hi Brooke,

We do have some suggested edits to your edits – please see attached and we'll go from there.

Thanks,
Tara.

Tara Rodgers, MFA, PhD
Web Content Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2928

e: trodgers@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



id:image001.png@01D3799B.0CABBDF0

From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 9:08 AM
To: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>, Sheryl Rhoads
<SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Marshall, Candace
(OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>, Emily Dammeyer
<EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>, "Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com)"
<eosborn@hagerssharp.com>, "Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com)"
<LSalay@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: Someone wrote to us about the Diabetes stats....

Hello,

One of our website users pointed out a broken link in the Sources on the Diabetes page. Since the broken link was citation #1 that linked to the CDC for the prevalence of diabetes among U.S. women, I'd prefer to just update the statistic and the link at the same time. The broken link is the CDC's Diabetes report from 2014. The most recent report they have is from 2017 so I'd like to update it while we're fixing things.

Can you change in the masthead

More than 13 million women have diabetes, or about one in 10 women ages 20 and older.¹

To this update:

About 15 million U.S. women have diabetes, or about one in every 9 adult women.¹

And then the citation would be: 1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2017). [National Diabetes Statistics Report, 2017](#). The "1 in 9" number is squishy depending on if you look at crude or age-adjusted. I prefer the age-adjusted percentage which is 10.8 versus the 11.7 crude percentage of women with diagnosed and undiagnosed diabetes. So that's why I said "about"....

And then the answer to the question “Do women of color need to worry about diabetes?” will also need to be updated. I’ve attached suggested text for that. Can you incorporate the sources correctly into the source list on the fact sheet?

Feel free to suggest edits to my edits if you think they’re needed. Thanks.

Brooke

Brooke Leggin, MPH

Web Manager



cid:image002.jpg@01D3E384.23618C20

Office on Women’s Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 732F.13, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: brooke.leggin@hhs.gov

Work Hours: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm ET

Main: 202-690-7650 | **Direct:** M, Th, F 202-205-2373 T, W 301-864-2607

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Sent Date:	2018/05/04 08:51:14
Delivered Date:	2018/05/04 08:51:00

From:	Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
To:	Lorena Thome <lthome@motionpoint.com>; Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Subject:	RE: Implementation Question
Date:	2017/02/09 14:04:25
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Lorena,

Thanks for getting back to me. We've had some discussions on our end. There's no real good way for us to add in these pages and have them look complete without also having them show in the navigation. We had one other possible solution, that we think may work, but wanted to run by you. Instead of having separate pages, can we use the directive tags that you had initially outlined, but have the content within the tags be the re-organized English content instead of re-organized Spanish? So, for example, the Glossary page would have the normal content, and then within the same directive tags that you initially sent, we place the *English* content that's been placed in the right order. The thinking is that your system can swap in and then translate the properly ordered content. Would that work? If it's easier to jump on a call to talk through it, please let us know.

Please let us know if what we outlined above is an option. If not, I think our best option is to go with the more basic looking pages in Spanish.

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

From: Lorena Thome [mailto:lthome@motionpoint.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 10:04 AM
To: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Implementation Question

Hi Emily,

Unfortunately, we cannot use only the body content of these pages. We will be linking to the Spanish alternate page instead of the English page, so we need them to be exact replicas or at least to be as complete as you want them to be displayed on the Spanish site.

Our recommendation to keep these English alternate pages hidden (besides not linking to them from the English site) is to add "noindex, nofollow" at the top of these pages. We will remove that on our end to make sure the pages are indexed in Spanish. Would that work for you?

Thanks,

Lorena Thome

Project Manager



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lthome@motionpoint.com

From: Emily Dammeyer [<mailto:EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 9:13 AM

To: Lorena Thome; Pam Nieto; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Darcy Sawatzki

Subject: RE: Implementation Question

Thanks, Lorena.

The missing page elements are intentional, and we won't be able to have them as exact replicas. If we add in those missing elements the pages will be more easily "discoverable" to our English-language users, which is what we want to avoid. The intention for these pages is that we've set it up so you can use the body content for each page. We can add code, if you have it, to indicate where your system should start/stop on these pages (similar to the shortcodes you provided for the directive tags), but these pages cannot be complete replicas.

Let me know if you have any other questions.

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

From: Lorena Thome [<mailto:lthome@motionpoint.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 08, 2017 8:36 AM
To: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Implementation Question

Hi Emily,

Thank you for providing these. Our team will work on linking to them on the Spanish site.

In the meantime, I wanted to bring to your attention that some of the Spanish pages seem to be missing some content that is available on the English page.

1. English: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/>

Spanish: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/z-health-topics-spanish>

Please remove (Spanish) from the title. Note that the Spanish page does not have the breadcrumb menu.

2. English: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/aging/diseases-conditions/index.html>

Spanish: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions-spanish>

Please remove (Spanish) from the title. The left nav and Healthy Aging part at the top are missing.

3. English: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/publications/our-publications/fact-sheet/autoimmune-diseases.html>

Spanish: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/autoimmune-diseases-z-table-spanish>

Same as item 2.

4. English: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/glossary/>

Spanish: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/glossary-spanish>

Note that the Spanish page does not have the breadcrumb menu. Also, the "Subscribe" option is missing.

Thanks,

Lorena Thome

Project Manager



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lthome@motionpoint.com

From: Emily Dammeyer [<mailto:EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2017 4:48 PM

To: Lorena Thome; Pam Nieto; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Darcy Sawatzki

Subject: RE: Implementation Question

Hi Lorena,

Thanks for the input. We've gone ahead and published all these pages without linking to them. They should all be live:

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/z-health-topics-spanish>

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions-spanish>

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/autoimmune-diseases-z-table-spanish>

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/glossary-spanish>

Let me know if you need anything else right now.

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners

301.273.2851

From: Lorena Thome [<mailto:lthome@motionpoint.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 06, 2017 10:15 AM
To: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Implementation Question

Emily,

We can probably replace a staging page on production, but all the assets would have to be available to a normal user. For example, if there's an image we are not translating on the page, and it is set to the staging domain, if the staging domain isn't available to normal users, it'll be broken.

Another option would be to have these pages in production, but not linked to the main site. In that way, users will not get to them.

Note that I'm currently getting 404s for these 2 pages:

<http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/glossary-spanish>

<http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/autoimmune-diseases-z-table-spanish>

Please let me know once the pages are final so that we can proceed with linking them to the Spanish site.

Thanks,

Lorena Thome

Project Manager



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lthome@motionpoint.com

From: Emily Dammeyer [<mailto:EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Monday, February 06, 2017 9:34 AM

To: Lorena Thome; Pam Nieto; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Darcy Sawatzki

Subject: RE: Implementation Question

Thanks, Lorena!

I wanted to follow up on one other to-do item from our team. We have created the four re-alphabetized pages and they're currently on our staging site:

- Glossary: <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/glossary-spanish>
- A-Z Topics: <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/z-health-topics-spanish>
- Autoimmune Diseases: <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/autoimmune-diseases-z-table-spanish>
- Diseases & Conditions: <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/diseases-and-conditions-spanish>

I know we want to have these pages as hidden as possible. With that in mind, would it be possible for you to work from these staging links, or do we need them on them published? Let me know.

Thanks!

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

From: Lorena Thome [<mailto:lthome@motionpoint.com>]

Sent: Monday, February 06, 2017 9:25 AM

To: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: RE: Implementation Question

Hi Emily,

Thank you for bringing this to our attention. Meta data should have been included. Our team is going back and adding it. I'll let you know if we run into any issues and will confirm once it is all translated.

Kind regards,

Lorena Thome

Project Manager



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lthome@motionpoint.com

From: Emily Dammeyer [<mailto:EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Friday, February 03, 2017 12:28 PM

To: Lorena Thome; Pam Nieto; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Darcy Sawatzki

Subject: RE: Implementation Question

Hi Lorena,

One other question came up after our check-in call yesterday: is translating meta data part of your process? We noticed that none of the meta data is currently translated into Spanish, and we're a bit concerned about how it may impact traffic to our site, if it's not translated into Spanish. Please let me know.

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

From: Lorena Thome [<mailto:lthome@motionpoint.com>]

Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2017 10:49 AM

To: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>

Subject: RE: Implementation Question

Hi Emily,

As discussed during our call, we recommend that you implement the linking code universally.

Let me know if you have any other questions.

Thanks,

Lorena Thome

Project Manager



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lthome@motionpoint.com

From: Emily Dammeyer [<mailto:EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, February 01, 2017 2:07 PM

To: Lorena Thome; Pam Nieto; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Darcy Sawatzki; Chuck Sebian-Lander

Subject: RE: Implementation Question

Hi Lorena,

As our development team works out our plan for implementing your Spanish-language pages into the Womenshealth website, we had one question about how your code works. My understanding is that there is a code snippet we will add to our pages that will allow your system to preemptively direct Spanish-language users to the Spanish equivalent of a page, without their needing to click any actual hyperlink on the page itself.

The question is, what happens if we add that code snippet to an English page that does not have a Spanish equivalent? Will the code properly detect that there is no Spanish equivalent (and so will not try to direct the user to a page that does not exist)?

If this is the case, I assume then that it will be safe for us to add that code universally, to every page on the site regardless of current translation status? (Being able to do this without exceptions will save some time on our end, and will also make it easier when future pages are translated.)

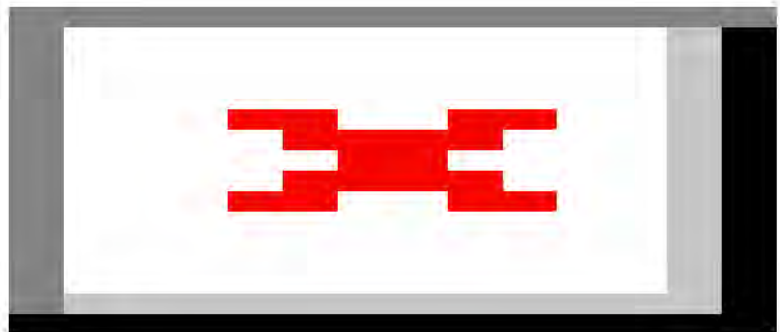
Thanks for clarifying,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

From: Lorena Thome [<mailto:lthome@motionpoint.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 01, 2017 2:01 PM
To: Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: RE: Speedbump (705730)

Hi Pam,

The speedbump has been implemented. Feel free to test it by clicking on an out of scope section from the Spanish site.



cid:image007.png@01D2805B.8496CBA0

Kind regards,

Lorena Thome

Project Manager



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lthome@motionpoint.com

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From: Pam Nieto [<mailto:PNieto@hagerssharp.com>]

Sent: Thursday, January 26, 2017 3:16 PM

To: Lorena Thome; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Darcy Sawatzki; Emily Dammeyer

Subject: RE: Speedbump (705730)

Hi Lorena,

This is approved. Go ahead and implement. Thank you!

PAM NIETO

Account Supervisor

1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
D 202.706.7401



cid:image002.png@01D08199.BE6E6670

From: Lorena Thome [<mailto:lthome@motionpoint.com>]

Sent: Monday, January 23, 2017 11:27 AM

To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>

Subject: Speedbump (705730)

Hi ladies,

Attached is the creative we have prepared for the speedbump alerting users that they are about to visit a page that is not translated. Please kindly review. Once we receive your approval, we'll proceed with implementation.

Thanks,

Lorena Thome

Project Manager



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lthome@motionpoint.com

Sender:	Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Recipient:	Lorena Thome <lthome@motionpoint.com>; Pam Nieto <PNieto@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Sent Date:	2017/02/09 14:03:35
Delivered Date:	2017/02/09 14:04:25

From:	Roshni Devchand <RDevchand@HagerSharp.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>
CC:	Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Feedback on Heart Disease & Stroke module
Date:	2017/04/26 08:30:13
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thanks so much, Brooke, and apologies for the delay in getting back to you (I was out sick). These changes look great, and we've incorporated them here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Preview/?sm=GkyPTZcj0XznBNqj1iXwl0RHn4bajQA_2FxThJpRNA1bLjfAahsPzTEUyIPRv9sm6a. If this looks good to you, we'll send it off to the respondents with the updated invitation language below.

Thanks!
Roshni

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 9:39 AM
To: Roshni Devchand <RDevchand@HagerSharp.com>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Feedback on Heart Disease & Stroke module

Thanks Roshni, I just have a few tweaks.

Question2

Let's use the word "element" instead of "component."

Let's use these answer choices:

- Organization of the Heart Disease and Stroke pages
 - Ability to know what I will find within each section [this gets at labeling, so "labeling" does not need to be included in the first question about organization]
 - Font size
 - Amount of text on each page
 - The "look-and-feel" of the pages, including the colors, photos, and amount of white space
 - Ability to find the most important information to me
- Please tell us how you would improve any of these elements you rated as "Poor."

Question 3

I'm not sure what "Appropriate" means here. Feel free to delete, I think the other answer choices are good.

Invite letter:

Dear womenshealth.gov user,

In the past you filled out a website survey for us. Thank you for taking the time to do that. We carefully review all website comments to improve the health information on <https://womenshealth.gov>. On that survey, you provided your email address to give us more feedback in the future.

We've recently updated our heart disease and stroke information for women (at <https://www.womenshealth.gov/heart-disease-and-stroke>). We'd love to get your feedback on these new pages. Do you have time to answer just 5 questions on a short survey? If so, we'd love to hear what you think.

Heart Disease and Stroke section: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/heart-disease-and-stroke>
Survey link: www.surveymonkey.com/r/heartdiseaseandstroke

Thanks in advance!

From: Roshni Devchand [<mailto:RDevchand@HagerSharp.com>]

Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 4:53 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Darcy Sawatzki

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)

Subject: RE: Feedback on Heart Disease & Stroke module

Hi Brooke,

Thanks again for your feedback! We've updated the survey to elicit more of the constructive feedback outlined in your objectives. Rather than alternate positive/negative statements (which can end up being confusing for the survey taker and result in double negative responses), we went with a more ForeSee approach of rating components on a 1-5 scale, but allowing for open-ended responses of how to improve anything they rated poorly. Let us know what you think!

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Preview/?sm=GkyPTZcj0XznBNqj1iXwl0RHn4bajQA_2FxThJpRNA1bljfAahsPzTEUyIPRv9sm6a

Also, below is the draft invitation language.

Thanks, and happy Friday!

Roshni

Dear womenshealth.gov user,

The Office on Women's Health (OWH) has recently updated the Heart Disease and Stroke section of womenshealth.gov. We are reaching out to you as a previous user of womenshealth.gov. As part of your continued support of OWH's efforts, we would love to get your feedback on the updated website.

Please visit www.womenshealth.gov/heart-disease-and-stroke and then complete the following 5-minute survey by Friday, May 12. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Survey link: www.surveymonkey.com/r/heartdiseaseandstroke

Thanks in advance!

Roshni Devchand
On behalf of the HHS Office on Women's Health

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 1:39 PM
To: Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagersharp.com>; Roshni Devchand <RDevchand@HagerSharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Feedback on Heart Disease &Stroke module

Haha! We *sort of* won that Clearmark award...we just can't tell anyone else....

From: Darcy Sawatzki [<mailto:dsawatzki@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 1:34 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Roshni Devchand
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Feedback on Heart Disease &Stroke module

Sounds good!

This was based on what we did for HIV/AIDS section which WAS for the purpose of checking a box on an award submission (the Clearmark, which we won)! ☺

Happy to go a different direction for this section.
-D

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 1:31 PM
To: Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagersharp.com>; Roshni Devchand <RDevchand@HagerSharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Feedback on Heart Disease &Stroke module

Thanks Darcy, this articulates my thought perfectly. I am not interested in sharing this feedback with HHS leadership because they will not take it seriously due to the low n. Feedback like this from this number of people is typically used to address look-and-feel issues and quick navigation fixes. To show the whole website's utility and satisfaction requires Google Analytics numbers, usability testing, and other third-party survey results like ForeSee. With this type of survey I am interested in hearing what real users think of our new look-and-feel, navigation, and streamlined content in a quick and dirty way. Since we don't have any other feedback besides the open-ended comments on the ForeSee survey this is a great way to start getting this type of feedback.

So my goal with this type of data collection is to solicit real feedback from real users to adjust the site further, not to check a box on an award submission.

My preference is to discuss the purpose of this type of exercise before anyone begins drafting specifics. Perhaps you spoke to Ann, but the team did not have time to communicate the outcome of that discussion. Or, we could have discussed it and I don't remember.

From: Darcy Sawatzki [<mailto:dsawatzki@hagersharp.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 1:23 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Roshni Devchand; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: Feedback on Heart Disease &Stroke module

Regarding "biased but negative feedback"... I would say that depends on our objective. If we are looking to be able to say we got audience feedback and then share some of that feedback with HHS leadership and/or awards committee, we will be doing ourselves a disservice to take the "biased but negative feedback" approach. If instead we are looking at truly how to "fix" things or do things better, that might be the right approach. But then we have to decide if we'll be able to address the feedback with timely fixes.

Ann, Roshni...additional thoughts?

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 12:41 PM
To: Roshni Devchand <RDevchand@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Cc: Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagersharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Feedback on Heart Disease &Stroke module

Thanks Roshni, I think this looks good. I'm concerned because all of the attitude questions are framed to solicit the most socially desirable response and I'd rather collect biased but negative feedback than have everyone just say that it's good because that's the path of least resistance. Can you either reframe those questions to the negative or alternate the answer choices between positive and negative?

Also, I need to review and approve the message that will be sent asking people to participate. Thanks.

Brooke

From: Roshni Devchand [<mailto:RDevchand@HagerSharp.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 12:17 PM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Darcy Sawatzki; Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: Feedback on Heart Disease &Stroke module

Hi Ann and Brooke,

Similar to how we collected feedback on the HIV &AIDS section of womenshealth.gov, we would like to employ a similar feedback form for the newly launched Heart Disease and Stroke module. The draft

feedback form is here:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Preview/?sm=GkyPTZcj0XznBNqj1iXwl0RHn4bajQA_2FxThJpRNA1bljAahsPzTEUyIPRv9sm6a

As we did last time, we again looked through our most recent ForeSee results to identify potential respondents who (1) provided their email address to be contacted again in the future, and (2) left some kind of open-ended feedback through ForeSee. Most of these individuals came to womenshealth.gov through various A-Z health topics and many identified themselves as general consumers. The text in parentheses are snippets of their open-ended comments.

srcloudedwards46@yahoo.com (It would be nice if you brought back the women's calendar.)
jmorrison5.320@lgflmail.org (more visual effects)
harleygirlflack@gmail.com (Offer a fitness and health tracking program)
cfessier@gfhs.info (Probably could add more art or some animation to web site.)
beth.spurgin@stvin.org (eating disorders)
angelalgsdn@aim.com (links to outside websites did not work)
valscott688@gmail.com (No comment yet. It was my first visit from work and I didn't have time to browse.)
burmetam@charter.net (update information more often)
Patricia.Bass@Healthsouth.com (no clue)

Please let us know if you have any feedback on the form or the individuals we propose to contact.

Thanks!
Roshni

ROSHNI DEVCHAND, MPH, MCHES
Associate Director, Strategic Planning & Research

1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
D 202.706.7457 C (b)(6)



cid:93B7D1FE-08F5-4DDC-BEBC-195D74AED88E

Sender:	Roshni Devchand <RDevchand@HagerSharp.com>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagersharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/04/26 08:29:36
Delivered Date:	2017/04/26 08:30:13

From:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
To:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>
Subject:	RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion
Date:	2017/07/11 11:56:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Yep.

Save your brain cells, energy and everything else.

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2017 11:55 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

I will keep my opinions to myself. ☺

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2017 11:55 AM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Patricia Nicastrì; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Elizabeth Osborn
Cc: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

No, Jenn doesn't want a long video.

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2017 11:54 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Patricia Nicastrì; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Elizabeth Osborn
Cc: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

I thought we were going to make a longer video available via YouTube as well?

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2017 11:41 AM
To: Patricia Nicastrì; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Elizabeth Osborn
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

Two short videos

From: Patricia Nicastrì [<mailto:PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2017 11:39 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Elizabeth Osborn

Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

Thanks, Candace! Just to confirm, are we still creating one longer video with both questions and two shorter videos (one for each question)?

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) [<mailto:Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2017 11:31 AM
To: Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

Hi Patty,

Here is the updated script with Jenn's edits.

She only wants the short video to cover first 1-2 questions of the fact sheet, depending on time, from the fact sheet so we removed the other questions from the script. Looking at the time estimates, it will likely only be 1 question per video snippet for this fact sheet. The video will still direct viewers to the website for more information.

Let me know if you have any questions or need to chat on a call.

Candace

From: Patricia Nicastrì [<mailto:PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2017 10:56 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Elizabeth Osborn
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

Hi Brooke and Candace — I just wanted to follow up on the PCOS script. Please let me know if there are additional edits you'd like us to incorporate.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) [<mailto:Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2017 8:21 AM
To: Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

Hi Patty,

Brooke and I have reviewed the script and it is with Jenn for review. We should have feedback to you hopefully by the end of the day.

Candace

From: Patricia Nicastrì [<mailto:PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 3:25 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Elizabeth Osborn
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

Hi Candace and Brooke,

I just wanted to make sure you saw this. Please let me know if you'd like us to make any changes!

Best,
Patty

From: Patricia Nicastrì
Sent: Wednesday, June 07, 2017 4:54 PM
To: 'Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)' <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

We incorporated the new question and updated the answers based on the HTML fact sheet. Let us know what you think! There are a few comments for you in the document. You'll notice we created a longer intro and a shorter intro. The longer intro would accompany the full video and the shorter intro would accompany each of the shorter videos. Please let me know if you have any questions.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, May 25, 2017 8:55 AM
To: Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

Since we have more "space" now with this plan to do a longer version and then social-media-appropriate-30-sec versions let's use the three questions from the current fact sheet but add the question about treatments of PCOS for pregnancy since we were trying to squeeze that into the PDF version anyway.

Also, this isn't to say that the script has to follow the HTML answer exactly – just to include a little more information as it's appropriate. Thanks.

Brooke

From: Patricia Nicastrì [<mailto:PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>]

Sent: Thursday, May 25, 2017 8:41 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Elizabeth Osborn; Darcy Sawatzki

Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)

Subject: RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

We can absolutely do that. Would you like us to stick with the three questions from the PDF fact sheet (these are the three that are included in the previous version of the script) and modify the answers based on the HTML fact sheet? Or are there different questions you'd prefer to focus on?

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2017 4:53 PM

To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Patricia Nicastrì

<PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Darcy Sawatzki

<dsawatzki@hagersharp.com>

Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)

<Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

Hi – I'm sorry – I think I misunderstood this. Using the PDF fact sheet is fine, but there are some things that are sort of "lost in translation" between the PDF fact sheet and the full HTML fact sheet. For example – the "treatments" described in the last question are actually a combination of treatments for PCOS and treatments to attempt pregnancy with PCOS. So just using the straight up text from the PDF fact sheet may be unnecessarily confusing to people. I wonder if we could choose the questions from the PDF fact sheet and the answers to those questions that are from the HTML fact sheet, so that we have more accuracy. The PDF fact sheet is not always the most fulsome option.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)

Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2017 4:25 PM

To: Patricia Nicastrì; Elizabeth Osborn; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)

Cc: Darcy Sawatzki

Subject: RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

Hi Patty,

Thanks for the positive feedback on the Facebook Live event! ☺

Attached is the creative brief with a few edits.

Comments on Script:

The script covers 3 questions on from PCOS fact sheet. If I remember correctly, this was the script that was created based on the original concept. We need to go back and use a script that covers all of the questions on the fact sheet since that is what we are describing in the brief. (highlighted below).

For each pre-identified health topic, we will create a video that covers all questions in the PDF version of the fact sheet. This version will live on YouTube. From there, we will create shorter videos — anywhere from 30 to 60 seconds — for social media. These shorter versions will feature only one question and will be more promotional and shareable in nature.

Once we have the script based on the full fact sheet, it should hopefully be easier to create the shorter scripts based on the one question that will be presented during the short videos. Does this make sense?

I'm going to be out of the office Thurs-Friday but Brooke will be available to answer any questions and provide direction, if needed.

Have a great weekend,
Candace

From: Patricia Nicastrì [<mailto:PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2017 12:21 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Elizabeth Osborn; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Darcy Sawatzki
Subject: RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

Hi Candace — I just wanted to circle back about this. I know you have been busy with Facebook Live (it looked great by the way!). Please let me know your thoughts on the updated creative brief and script.

From: Patricia Nicastrì
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2017 5:38 PM
To: 'Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)' <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>
Cc: Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

Hi Candace — Apologies for the delay! The updated creative brief and script are attached for your review. There's one comment for you in the creative brief. Let us know your thoughts.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) [<mailto:Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 5:15 PM
To: Patricia Nicastrì <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>
Cc: Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

Hi Patty,

Here is the creative brief for the fact sheet to video project. Brooke and I updated some of the sections so that it could be presented at a meeting.

We've also added some content regarding metrics that the bottom of the document. Can you please add it to the brief?

Let me know if you have questions.

Thanks!
Candace

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Patricia Nicastrì [<mailto:PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>]

Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 1:46 PM

To: Patricia Nicastrì; Elizabeth Osborn; Jerold Williams; Fabio Bolzan; Martin Nugent; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Phenix, Adrianne (HHS/OASH)

Cc: Darcy Sawatzki

Subject: Fact Sheet to Video Discussion

When: Tuesday, April 25, 2017 4:00 PM-5:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US &Canada).

Where: (b)(6)

Sender:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
Recipient:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>
Sent Date:	2017/07/11 11:56:07
Delivered Date:	2017/07/11 11:56:00

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Review request: Bladder pain fact sheet for clearance
Date:	2017/02/24 15:53:32
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Totes, but when Jenn came into my office to tell me this I was reviewing the new Sexual Health content and I fear it will not make it through clearance. I might have to tone it down a little.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2017 3:51 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: Review request: Bladder pain fact sheet for clearance

I don't know why I find this funny but I do. LOL
That's good news for clearance!! ☺

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2017 3:46 PM
To: Sheryl Rhoads
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Emily Dammeyer
Subject: RE: Review request: Bladder pain fact sheet for clearance

Also, I should let everyone know that Nicole, OWH Acting Director, said that she does not need to see any Womenshealth.gov website health content (fact sheets and content areas) for review if they are just updates to existing content. She only wants to look at new content. So for OWH clearance for updates we just need one of the MDs (Alan or Sayeedha) and Jenn.

From: Sheryl Rhoads [<mailto:SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2017 3:43 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Emily Dammeyer
Subject: RE: Review request: Bladder pain fact sheet for clearance

This is great news! Thanks, Brooke!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2017 3:38 PM
To: Sheryl Rhoads
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Emily Dammeyer
Subject: RE: Review request: Bladder pain fact sheet for clearance

This has been approved by Jenn and Nicole and so is good to post as attached.

From: Sheryl Rhoads [<mailto:SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 8:34 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Emily Dammeyer
Subject: RE: Review request: Bladder pain fact sheet for clearance

Hi Brooke,

If you haven't already passed this back to Jenn, I had one small edit from Jenn's to simplify a sentence, on page 10. I accepted all the other changes

Thanks,
Sheryl

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2017 8:27 AM
To: Sheryl Rhoads
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Emily Dammeyer
Subject: RE: Review request: Bladder pain fact sheet for clearance

Jenn had edits. Most of them are in Track Changes. I had to accept some of the edits to get the footnote numbering function to work correctly in Word, so this is a mixed bag. Anyway, this is going back to Jenn for final clearance.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 2:56 PM
To: 'Sheryl Rhoads'
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Emily Dammeyer
Subject: RE: Review request: Bladder pain fact sheet for clearance

This final version (I added an "of" somewhere in here) is attached and this is now in OWH clearance with Jenn.

From: Sheryl Rhoads [<mailto:SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2017 10:01 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Emily Dammeyer
Subject: RE: Review request: Bladder pain fact sheet for clearance

Hi Brooke,

Most of her comments and revisions did not overlap with the reviewers' comments. Dr. Bavendam had asked if we could include the question on research, so I left it as is, since someone looking at that section may not have seen the bullet on genetics.

Thanks!
Sheryl

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>] **Sent:** Thursday, February 16, 2017 8:37 AM
To: Sheryl Rhoads
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Tess Feldhausen; Emily Dammeyer
Subject: RE: Review request: Bladder pain fact sheet for clearance

Hi Sheryl,

Attached is the Bladder Pain fact sheet with Dr. Uddin's comments (one of our new OWH docs). Her comments were excellent, but I tweaked a few of her edits. I wanted you to see her comments in case they didn't match with any of the other reviewer comments.

If you can return a clean copy to me I will put this back into OWH clearance with Jenn and Nicole.
Thanks!

Brooke

From: Sheryl Rhoads [<mailto:SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2017 2:27 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: Review request: Bladder pain fact sheet for clearance

Hi Brooke,

Attached is the revised version, with tracked changes. I fixed the citations! ☺

Please let me know how else I can help with this!

Thanks,
Sheryl

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, February 10, 2017 12:01 PM
To: Sheryl Rhoads; Tess Feldhausen
Subject: FW: Review request: Bladder pain fact sheet for clearance

Can someone call me about reference #4 (it's not listed, and due to the discussion in the comments I'm not sure which one we're referring to) and help me see the average age at diagnosis because I'm still not getting it. Thank you.

From: Sheryl Rhoads [<mailto:SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 2:01 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Cc: Darcy Sawatzki; Elizabeth Osborn; Emily Dammeyer; Tess Feldhausen
Subject: RE: Review request: Bladder pain fact sheet for clearance

Hi Brooke,

Attached is the revised Bladder Pain fact sheet for your review, with a few comments.

Please let me know if you have any questions!

Thanks,
Sheryl

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, October 17, 2016 10:55 AM
To: Sheryl Rhoads; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Cc: Darcy Sawatzki; Elizabeth Osborn; Emily Dammeyer; Tess Feldhausen
Subject: RE: Review request: Bladder pain fact sheet for clearance

Hi Sheryl,

A few final plain language edits attached and a few questions to address about the references/epidemiology of this. Thanks.

Brooke

From: Sheryl Rhoads [<mailto:SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 4:31 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Cc: Darcy Sawatzki; Elizabeth Osborn; Emily Dammeyer; Tess Feldhausen
Subject: Review request: Bladder pain fact sheet for clearance

Hi Brooke,

I hope you are having a good week! The Bladder pain fact sheet is ready for clearance. I've attached the fact sheet and the revised cover sheet.

As a reminder, I'm out of the office for the rest of the week but will be checking emails intermittently. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Best,
Sheryl

Sheryl Rhoads
Writing Team Lead

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 200
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.692.1801

e: srhoads@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D28833.8DF97050

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/02/24 15:53:31
Delivered Date:	2017/02/24 15:53:32

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To:	Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
CC:	Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>
Subject:	RE: Asthma fact sheet for clearance
Date:	2017/10/04 13:03:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Resending this!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, September 29, 2017 11:23 AM
To: 'Sheryl Rhoads'
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Emily Dammeyer; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Tess Feldhausen
Subject: RE: Asthma fact sheet for clearance

Thanks Sheryl, I think if we can use the asthma fact sheet edits/comments as an example it will be helpful. Here are some basics I wrote up based on the asthma draft.

Asthma examples:

1. Don't say "More [minority group listed here] women die from [disease listed here] than [majority group listed here]."

This phrasing indicates that more women, an actual number of women, die from the disease compared to a majority group. Usually this statement is incorrect. If you mean to say something like, "Proportionally, more minority group women die from the disease than majority group women." or "The rate of death is higher in minority group women." then use the phrasing "[Minority group listed here] women are **more likely to** die from [disease listed here] than [majority group listed here]."

2. Be absolutely certain that the statement you're writing into OWH website content can be found in the reference you use. Much more accuracy and precision is needed.

It doesn't need to be word-for-word, but if you say that more black women die from asthma than white women, that should be very clearly stated in the reference you cite. Do not take numbers that only say asthma deaths are higher in females and also higher in blacks and then presume that means more black women die compared to women of other groups. The reference you cited does not say that. Also, "other groups" is not the same thing as whites, which was the only other group referenced in that data brief.

Another good example of this was in the previous draft of the asthma fact sheet. The statement was about “low-income” women having a higher incidence of asthma. What was really meant was women with low incomes who live in cities due to the higher likelihood of cockroaches and pollution have a higher incidence of asthma. Much more careful attention needs to be paid to every statement in a content area.

3. **Proofread.** See missing words/punctuation on page 2.

4. **Completeness.** Be sure each question is answered comprehensively.

Significant and common **asthma triggers** were not included (cockroaches, even though they were mentioned in a tangentially-related question, wood smoke, and common chemicals such as cleaning agents). There were at least 7 commonly recommended **steps people can take to prevent an asthma attack** or stay away from triggers that were missing. This is a big oversight on the part of the research team where our goal is to not only provide plain language health information but to help people take the steps they need to be healthier.

5. Don't use Medscape articles. Reference #16, Asthma, the Sex Difference, requires a login. Please redo that research and find an article in PubMed or a .gov source.

The 2017 review article is a great place to start, and also to find the definitive studies for most of these statements. What about the statement in /pubmed/18156099 that women who smoke are more susceptible to asthma? That seems like an important thing to point out in the fact sheet – is that held up by additional or more recent evidence?

From: Sheryl Rhoads [<mailto:SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2017 5:25 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Emily Dammeyer; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Tess Feldhausen

Subject: RE: Asthma fact sheet for clearance

Hi Brooke,

I will work with the writer to go through these changes, and particularly the Q&A we will need to revise.

I would like to be able to put it on the agenda for next week's meeting, if that works. I alluded to it in today's meeting, but I think much of this relates back to our discussion on research and references, and our decisions here can help guide our strategy.

Thanks,
Sheryl

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2017 2:59 PM

To: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: RE: Asthma fact sheet for clearance

I'm happy to talk through any of these extensive comments. Thanks.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, September 01, 2017 4:01 PM
To: 'Sheryl Rhoads'
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Emily Dammeyer; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Tess Feldhausen
Subject: RE: Asthma fact sheet for clearance

Thanks for this! I just accepted all of your changes, the new CAM question looked great, and then submitted this to Alan for review before it goes to Jenn. Thanks!

Brooke

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Hi Brooke,

Attached is the revised Asthma fact sheet with the new section on CAM therapies. I've also attached the cover sheet.

Thanks!
Sheryl

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To: 'Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)' <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Asthma fact sheet for clearance

Thanks, Brooke! We'll make these revisions and research CAM therapies. We'll look to get this turned back around to you by early next week.

Thanks,
Sheryl

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
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Some minor tweaks but one rewrite needed on the poverty bullet and a potential additional question on CAM. Thanks.

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To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Emily Dammeyer
Subject: Asthma fact sheet for clearance

Hi Brooke,

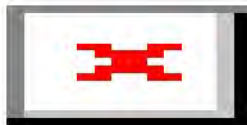
Please find attached the Asthma fact sheet for your review. Once approved, it will be ready for clearance.

Thanks!
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cid:image001.jpg@01D2DA20.92AA2B00

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Recipient:	Sheryl Rhoads < SRhoads@palladianpartners.com >; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) < eosborn@hagerssharp.com >; Emily Dammeyer < EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com >; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>;

	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>
Sent Date:	2017/10/04 13:02:59
Delivered Date:	2017/10/04 13:03:00

From:	Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>
Subject:	RE: Asthma fact sheet for clearance
Date:	2017/09/29 11:40:58
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thank you, Brooke, this is really helpful. I'll process this and look forward to discussing this more on Wednesday.

Best,
Sheryl

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 29, 2017 11:23 AM
To: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
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Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Emily Dammeyer
Subject: Asthma fact sheet for clearance

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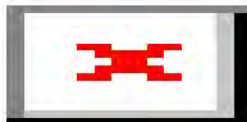
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Sheryl Rhoads
Writing Team Lead

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cid:image001.jpg@01D2DA20.92AA2B00

Sender:	Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>
Sent Date:	2017/09/29 11:40:09
Delivered Date:	2017/09/29 11:40:58

From:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: Breast Cancer Reconstruction campaign and Breast cancer awarness month
Date:	2017/10/04 11:25:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Aww, thanks! ☺

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, October 04, 2017 11:04 AM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Cc: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Breast Cancer Reconstruction campaign and Breast cancer awarness month

Thanks Candace, you rock.

Then the only other thing on the website is that we have a carousel slide that links folks to the NCI's breast reconstruction fact sheet on [our website](#).

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, October 04, 2017 10:58 AM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: Breast Cancer Reconstruction campaign and Breast cancer awarness month

Jenn,

Here is what Brooke sent out earlier. The graphics are also attached.
We've started sending out messages on our channels on yesterday and have them scheduled to go out throughout the month.
Candace

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Thursday, September 21, 2017 9:34 AM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Cc: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: OWH's Breast Cancer Awareness month activities

For the upcoming 2017 breast cancer awareness month in October, the HHS Office on Women's Health will promote awareness of the [Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act \(WHCRA\)](#), which requires most health insurance plans to cover reconstruction after a medically-necessary mastectomy. We will use the

attached social media graphics and messages below on our [@womenshealth](#) and [@Saluddlamujer](#) Twitter feeds and [OWH Facebook](#) page. The messages link to the National Cancer Institute's fact sheet on breast reconstruction and use the hashtags, #ChoiceToRebuild for consumer messages and #Right2Reconstruct for health professional messages.

Link to English Fact Sheet:

Original Link: <https://www.cancer.gov/types/breast/reconstruction-fact-sheet>

Shortened link: <http://go.usa.gov/xkpUj>

Link to Spanish Fact Sheet:

Original Link: <https://www.cancer.gov/espanol/tipos/seno/hoja-informativa-reconstruccion>

Shortened Link: <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

General consumer social media messages:

Facebook:

- Are you in the midst of scheduling a mastectomy? Do you know you can choose breast reconstruction to rebuild your breasts? Here's a fact sheet that describes your options. Talk with your health care provider to help answer any questions you might have. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpUj>
- Did you know that breast reconstruction is covered by most health insurance plans? Get the facts on rebuilding your breast after cancer. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpUj>

Twitter

- DYK that under federal law many insurance providers must cover breast reconstruction after cancer? ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpUj>
- If you opt for breast reconstruction, you don't have to do it right away. Know your options. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpUj>
- If you're having a #mastectomy, you can choose to have breast reconstruction. Get more info here: <http://go.usa.gov/xkpUj> #ChoiceToRebuild
- Follow #ChoiceToRebuild to get the facts on your options for breast reconstruction after cancer. <http://go.usa.gov/xkpUj>

Social media messages for African-American and Latina audiences:

Facebook

- The most frequent reasons mentioned not to receive breast reconstruction among Latinas included the desire to avoid additional surgery. Know the facts for a new you after cancer. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpUj>
- Did you know that a greater proportion of white women have breast reconstruction surgery than Latinas? Know the facts for a new you after cancer. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpUj>
- Did you know that African American women were more likely to report that reconstruction was not recommended and/or discouraged by their physician? Know the facts for a new you after cancer. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpUj>

Twitter

- Cultural beliefs may shape a women's breast reconstruction decision.
#ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpUj>
- Conozca los derechos de sus pacientes y apóyelos antes y después de una mastectomía.
#ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>
- Translation: Learn your patients' rights and support them before and after a mastectomy. <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>
- Sabías que, ¿puedes reconstruir tus senos después de una mastectomía? ¡Recuerda que es tu decisión! <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

Translation: Did you know? You can rebuild your breasts after a mastectomy. Remember — it's your choice! <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

- Puedes reconstruir tus senos después de la cirugía de cáncer de mama. Enseguida, luego o nunca. Es tu decisión. <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>
- Translation: You can rebuild your breasts after breast cancer surgery. Right away, later or never- the choice is yours. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>
- La cultura de una mujer puede afectar su decisión sobre la cirugía reconstructiva mamaria. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

Translation: A woman's culture can affect her decisions about breast constructive surgery. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

Social media messages for health professionals:

Facebook

- Health care providers! Federal law mandates that many health plans include coverage of breast reconstruction and prostheses any time after mastectomy. Support your patients by reviewing and sharing this fact sheet on breast reconstruction and patient rights. <http://go.usa.gov/xkpUj> #Right2Reconstruct
- Learn your patients' rights so you can support them before, during, and after a mastectomy. <http://go.usa.gov/xkpUj> #Right2Reconstruct

Twitter

- Support your patients by reviewing this fact sheet on breast reconstruction & patient rights. <http://go.usa.gov/xkpUj> #Right2Reconstruct
- Learn your patients' rights so you can support them before, during, & after a mastectomy. <http://go.usa.gov/xkpUj> #Right2Reconstruct
- Patients have a right to choose or transfer care to a provider of reconstructive care. <http://go.usa.gov/xkpUj> #Right2Reconstruct

Brooke Leggin

Web and Community Manager



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

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Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

From: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, October 04, 2017 10:37 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: Breast Cancer Reconstruction campaign and Breast cancer awareness month

Good morning, Brooke and Candace,
Brooke--Please provide me with a quick write up of what we are planning to do to promote the Breast Cancer Reconstruction Campaign and Breast Cancer Awareness month on Womenshealth.gov
Candace--Please provide me with any language or infocards etc., that we are promoting this month related to Breast Cancer Awareness or the reconstruction campaign.

I will need both of these items by COB tomorrow.

Thanks,

Jenn

Dr. Jennifer Bishop-Crawford, MPH
Director, Division of Strategic Communications



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 728E, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov
Main: 202-690-7650 | **Direct:** 202-260-6883

Sender:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2017/10/04 11:25:45
Delivered Date:	2017/10/04 11:25:00

From:	Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>
CC:	Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com) <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>
Subject:	RE: Review request: New pelvic organ prolapse fact sheet for clearance
Date:	2017/05/03 11:10:49
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Brooke,

I'm following up with Chuck on this one and iron-deficiency anemia and will update you at our 1 pm call. I know they were prepared in the old template prior to Drupal, so I think they are still waiting to be migrated before going live, but I'll confirm.

Thanks,
Sheryl

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 10:56 AM
To: Sheryl Rhoads; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Tess Feldhausen
Subject: RE: Review request: New pelvic organ prolapse fact sheet for clearance

Hi,

If there are any other cleared but not posted to the website fact sheets I expect that these will be posted before July 21, 2017. Are there any others out there – content that was cleared but not posted? I did not see this fact sheet on the prioritization list from a few weeks ago and did not want it to get lost in the shuffle. I'm sure this is/was impacted by the changes to the Top Nav. If you can tell me where it is from a web/migration perspective that would be good because now I have to get this cleared by Sayeedha or Alan and also probably Tara since it is brand new content before we can post it.

Thanks.
Brooke

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 2:05 PM
To: 'Sheryl Rhoads'; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Cc: 'Elizabeth Osborn'; 'Nichole Sorhaindo'
Subject: RE: Review request: New pelvic organ prolapse fact sheet for clearance

Sorry, attached this time.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 2:04 PM
To: 'Sheryl Rhoads'; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Cc: 'Elizabeth Osborn'; 'Nichole Sorhaindo'
Subject: RE: Review request: New pelvic organ prolapse fact sheet for clearance

Nancy just had a couple of minor corrections and signed this on March 17 (so I changed the date to that) and so this is approved as attached.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Monday, March 07, 2016 3:35 PM
To: 'Sheryl Rhoads'; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Nichole Sorhaindo
Subject: RE: Review request: New pelvic organ prolapse fact sheet for clearance

This is now in OWH Clearance as attached.

From: Sheryl Rhoads [<mailto:SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 07, 2016 11:01 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Nichole Sorhaindo
Subject: RE: Review request: New pelvic organ prolapse fact sheet for clearance

Hi Brooke,

Attached is the revised Pelvic organ prolapse. To your question about Kegels, it was in the original draft but was specifically removed by the expert reviewer. I've included her explanation in a comment in the attached.

Thanks,
Sheryl

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 04, 2016 3:34 PM
To: Sheryl Rhoads; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Nichole Sorhaindo
Subject: RE: Review request: New pelvic organ prolapse fact sheet for clearance

Just one question and minor edits before I submit into OWH Clearance....

From: Sheryl Rhoads [<mailto:SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 10:12 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Nichole Sorhaindo
Subject: Review request: New pelvic organ prolapse fact sheet for clearance

Hi Brooke,

Attached is the Pelvic organ prolapse fact sheet, along with the cover sheet and the revisions from the NICHD expert reviewer, Dr. Meikle. Much of our discussion was over the phone, and I made comments during our conversation on the version that was revised by Dr. Kunkle (the practicing clinician). So, I've included that version, along with Dr. Meikle's second review of the fact sheet. We can add that to our agenda for today's meeting to discuss more if needed.

Thanks,
Sheryl

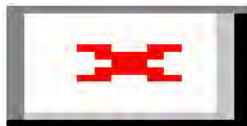
Sheryl Rhoads
Writing Team Lead

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 200
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w: www.palladianpartners.com



Sender:	Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com) <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>
Sent Date:	2017/05/03 11:08:26
Delivered Date:	2017/05/03 11:10:49

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: STI fact sheet updates?
Date:	2017/03/02 14:29:11
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

My typing fingers are lazy, apparently only going for "CM" rather than the longer options.....

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 2:28 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: STI fact sheet updates?

LOL
She is my alter-ego.
Just kidding. I don't even know her.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 2:12 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: FW: STI fact sheet updates?

I meant to cc you, not Carolyn Murphy, below...

From: Carolyn Murphy [<mailto:cmurphy@reingold.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 2:05 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: Re: STI fact sheet updates?

Hi Brooke, I think this made its way to me by mistake. Hope all is well.
Best,
Carolyn Murphy

From: "Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)" <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Date: Thursday, March 2, 2017 at 1:37 PM
To: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: "Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)" <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>, "Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com)" <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>, Carolyn Murphy <cmurphy@reingold.com>, "Tess Feldhausen (TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com)" <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: STI fact sheet updates?

Have we talked about the new STD surveillance numbers that came out from the CDC in October of 2016? Sorry that my memory is so poor. I started looking at our fact sheets around this, and it seems like we could easily do some basic numerical and source updating to keep our numbers as consistent as possible with the CDC updates. I've attached some examples of those changes. Can you have someone go through all of the STI fact sheets and list these updates? I'd like to review the full list of updates before you pass it along to the website team. Thanks.

Brooke

Brooke Leggin

Web and Community Manager



WH_logo_150

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Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/03/02 14:29:11

From:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: BV Tweet/Website
Date:	2018/03/30 15:27:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thanks for letting me know and for following up with all of the changes.

I'll acknowledge her comment and let her know that we've submitted it to our experts for review. Next week, I can follow-up again and share the links.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2018 3:01 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: BV Tweet/Website

I spoke with Sheryl about Sayeedha's edits because it's not just in that one place we call it an infection. So Sheryl is marking up the rest of the fact sheet to confirm all of the edits to correct "infection" to "condition" and she's going to send that to me when it's available. So technically you could respond to the person on Twitter now since Sayeedha approved our edit, but we still have further edits to make. It's your call. I'm not sure if the additional edits will be made before the end of today so it might not be done until Monday.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, March 30, 2018 11:17 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: BV Tweet/Website

Hi Brooke,

I didn't get a chance to talk to you yesterday about the BV tweet on @womenshealth. I talked with Jenn about responding and she is fine with us responding. Before we do, she wants you to have Sayeedha clear the changes on the webpage.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 8:31 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: BV Tweet/Website

Yes but after it goes live and I clear it with Jenn.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 8:30 AM

To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: BV Tweet/Website

Thank you! Are you going to respond to the comment on Twitter?

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 8:25 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: BV Tweet/Website

Thanks Brooke!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 7:47 AM
To: Sheryl Rhoads
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Tara Rodgers
Subject: RE: BV Tweet/Website

Thanks Sheryl, this is helpful. I think the edit you propose is appropriate. Can this be done today (Wed, 3/28)? Can someone let us know when it's live? Thanks.

Brooke

From: Sheryl Rhoads [<mailto:SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2018 5:19 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Tara Rodgers
Subject: RE: BV Tweet/Website

Hi Brooke,

The page was updated two weeks ago as part of a routine broken link check. Prior to that, the page was last updated in April 2017 when it was migrated into Drupal. At that time, you may recall, we made slight tweaks to the fact sheets to update statistics and citations. At that time, the BV fact sheet was compared against the 2015 guidelines and the citations were updated.

As an alternative to the current "How do you get BV?", we could update this to more closely match what is on the CDC site. The content in red is adapted from the CDC's [BV fact sheet](#), which sources the 2015 guidelines: Researchers are still studying how women get BV. You can get BV without having sex, but BV can also be caused by vaginal, oral, or anal sex. You can get BV from male or female partners. **but BV is more common in women who are sexually active. Having a new sex partner or multiple sex partners, as well as douching, can upset the balance of good and harmful bacteria in your vagina. This raises your risk of getting BV.**

The "good and harmful bacteria" is also discussed under "What is BV"—the first question.

Please let us know how you'd like us to move forward.
Best,
Sheryl

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2018 4:18 PM
To: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: FW: BV Tweet/Website
Importance: High

Hi Sheryl,

There's been [a question on our twitter channel](#) about the [BV fact sheet](#). I think part of the problem is that we use the word "cause" when that's not certain in the scientific arena (that BV can be caused by vaginal, oral, or anal sex). And saying that you can get it from male or female partners makes it equal an STI. I think we should clarify that language on the site.

The site says the page was last updated on March 16, 2018 and I wasn't sure what the update was that was 10 days ago? Can you find out and let us know? Thanks.

Looks like the CDC last reviewed our info in late 2014 and it was approved by OWH in early 2015, so I'm not sure this was updated with the [latest treatment info from 2015](#)? I know we updated the STI fact sheets but I wasn't sure if we updated the BV fact sheet at the same time?

AP and Candace – it's up to you guys if we respond on Twitter or not? You might run it by Jenn given the current scrutiny of any information about women who have sex with women.

Thanks.
Brooke

From: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2018 3:52 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: BV Tweet/Website
Importance: High

Hi Brooke,

I'm monitoring Twitter today and saw this tweet about our bacterial vaginosis webpage.
<https://twitter.com/dranarchista/status/978704861918146560>

Here's what I think she is referring to:

What is bacterial vaginosis (BV)?

Bacterial vaginosis (BV) is an infection in the vagina. BV is caused by changes in the amount of certain types of bacteria in your vagina. BV can develop when your vagina has more harmful bacteria than good bacteria.

How do you get BV?

Researchers are still studying how women get BV. You can get BV without having sex, but BV can also be caused by vaginal, oral, or anal sex. You can get BV from male or female partners.

Are there some sources that the health writers can provide for us to pass along to her in response? What do you think?

Adrianne Phenix, M.S., C.H.E.S.

Public Health Analyst



Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Adrianne.Phenix@hhs.gov

Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-0571

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/03/30 15:27:24
Delivered Date:	2018/03/30 15:27:00

From:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
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Subject:	RE: 2017 Breast Cancer Patient Education
Date:	2017/09/20 15:59:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Okay. Thanks.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 3:59 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: FW: 2017 Breast Cancer Patient Education

This is the most recent email from her I have.

From: Elliott, Kelley (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 4:32 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: 2017 Breast Cancer Patient Education

Hi Brooke,

Thanks for sharing. Below are the promo activities we have planned for this year. Please let us know if you are planning a Twitter chat; we'd be interested in participating again this year. Same goes for the blog; we'd love to cross-post. Thanks!

- Social media posts with graphics (English and Spanish Twitter and English Facebook)
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Kelley

Kelley Elliott, MS
Writer-Editor, Division of Information and Education

Office of Minority Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



OMH-Logo

Email: Kelley.Elliott@hhs.gov | Direct: 240-453-6904

Website: www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov

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From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

Sent: Monday, September 11, 2017 3:11 PM

To: Cory, Janine (CDC/ONDIEH/NCCDPHP); Chasan, Rebecca (NIH/NCI) [E]; Miller, Jacqueline (CDC/ONDIEH/NCCDPHP); Patel, Nisha (HRSA); Syrek Jensen, Tamara S. (CMS/CCSQ); Chin, Joseph (CMS/CCSQ); Welch, Anthony (OS/OASH); Elliott, Kelley (OS/OASH); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Santos, Melanie (NIH/NCI) [E]

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We encourage you to retweet us, share our posts, or develop your own messages to increase awareness of a woman's options after a medically-necessary mastectomy.

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Warm regards,
Brooke

Brooke Leggin
Web and Community Manager



OWH_logo_150

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General consumer social media messages:

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- Are you in the midst of scheduling a mastectomy? Do you know you can choose to whether or not to have breast reconstruction to rebuild your breasts? Here's a fact sheet that describes your options. Talk with your health care provider to help answer any questions you might have. #ChoiceToRebuild
- Did you know that breast reconstruction is covered by most health insurance plans? Get the facts on rebuilding your breast after cancer. #ChoiceToRebuild

Twitter

- DYK that under federal law, many health insurance providers must cover breast reconstruction after cancer? ChoiceToRebuild
- If you opt for breast reconstruction, you don't have to do it right away. Know your options. #ChoiceToRebuild

- If you're having a #mastectomy, you can choose to have breast reconstruction. Here's some info on your options: #ChoiceToRebuild
- Follow #ChoiceToRebuild to get the facts on your options for breast reconstruction after cancer.

Social media messages for African-American and Latina audiences:

Facebook

- The most frequent reasons mentioned not to receive breast reconstruction among Latinas included the desire to avoid additional surgery. Know the facts for a new you after cancer. #ChoiceToRebuild
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Twitter

- Cultural beliefs may shape a women's breast reconstruction decision. Know the facts for a new you after cancer. #ChoiceToRebuild
- Conozca los derechos de sus pacientes y apóyelos antes y después de una mastectomía. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>
- Translation: Learn your patients' rights and support them before and after a mastectomy. <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>
- Sabías que, ¿puedes reconstruir tus senos después de una mastectomía? ¡Recuerda que es tu decisión! <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

Translation: Did you know? You can rebuild your breasts after a mastectomy. Remember — it's your choice! <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>
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Translation: You can rebuild your breasts after breast cancer surgery. Right away, later or never- the choice is yours. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

- La cultura de una mujer puede afectar su decisión sobre la cirugía reconstructiva mamaria. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

Translation: A woman's culture can affect her decisions about breast constructive surgery. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

Social media messages for health professionals:

Facebook

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Twitter

- Support your patients by reviewing this fact sheet on breast reconstruction & patient rights. #Right2Reconstruct
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Sent Date:	2017/09/20 15:59:31
Delivered Date:	2017/09/20 15:59:00

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
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Subject:	RE: 2017 Breast Cancer Patient Education
Date:	2017/09/15 09:03:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

That it's not at all necessary this year.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2017 4:31 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: 2017 Breast Cancer Patient Education

OWH-led Twitter chat? LOL. That was smooth.
I'm really not a fan of a Twitter chat for this topic.
What do you think?

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2017 8:15 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: FW: 2017 Breast Cancer Patient Education

FYI

From: Elliott, Kelley (OS/OASH)
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Twitter

- DYK that under federal law, many health insurance providers must cover breast reconstruction after cancer? #ChoiceToRebuild
- If you opt for breast reconstruction, you don't have to do it right away. Know your options. #ChoiceToRebuild
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- Did you know that African American women were more likely to report that reconstruction was not recommended and/or discouraged by their physician? Know the facts for a new you after cancer. #ChoiceToRebuild

Twitter

- Cultural beliefs may shape a women's breast reconstruction decision. Know the facts for a new you after cancer. #ChoiceToRebuild
- Conozca los derechos de sus pacientes y apóyelos antes y después de una mastectomía. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

- Translation: Learn your patients' rights and support them before and after a mastectomy. <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

- Sabías que, ¿puedes reconstruir tus senos después de una mastectomía? ¡Recuerda que es tu decisión! <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

Translation: Did you know? You can rebuild your breasts after a mastectomy. Remember — it's your choice! <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

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Translation: You can rebuild your breasts after breast cancer surgery. Right away, later or never- the choice is yours. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

- La cultura de una mujer puede afectar su decisión sobre la cirugía reconstructiva mamaria. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

Translation: A woman's culture can affect her decisions about breast constructive surgery. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

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Sent Date:	2017/09/15 09:02:59
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Subject:	RE: 2017 Breast Cancer Patient Education
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Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Brooke,

I am having problems with my Outlook and can't pull up all of my e-mails during a search.

Do you have an e-mail from me to Kelly about the other social media messages about breast reconstruction.

I was looking to see if I'd missed her e-mail but I can't pull up what I sent or even the messages that you sent.

Smh

Calgon. LOL

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
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- La cultura de una mujer puede afectar su decisión sobre la cirugía reconstructiva mamaria. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

Translation: A woman's culture can affect her decisions about breast constructive surgery. #ChoiceToRebuild <http://go.usa.gov/xkpE5>

Social media messages for health professionals:

Facebook

- Health care providers! Federal law mandates that many health plans include coverage of breast reconstruction and prostheses any time after mastectomy. Support your patients by reviewing and sharing this fact sheet on breast reconstruction and patient rights. #Right2Reconstruct
- Learn your patients' rights so you can support them before, during, and after a mastectomy. #Right2Reconstruct

Twitter

- Support your patients by reviewing this fact sheet on breast reconstruction & patient rights. #Right2Reconstruct

- Learn your patients' rights so you can support them before, during, & after a mastectomy.
#Right2Reconstruct
- Patients have a right to choose or transfer care to a provider of reconstructive care.
#Right2Reconstruct

Sender:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2017/09/20 15:58:07
Delivered Date:	2017/09/20 15:58:00

From:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B7C3FE81D0034E96A174A52966EE06BC-ABERCROMBIE>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: red dress exhibit table
Date:	2018/02/07 11:12:53
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Saw this email after I sent my question earlier

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2018 4:04 PM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: red dress exhibit table

The updated About Us isn't ready so we'll need to use what's on the website. For Make the Call, there is no fact sheet but Jenn wants the other printable pieces on display.

The only printable that I see related to exercise is the Get Active infographic for NWHW. If you know of something else that's printable, let's definitely include it.

Can you please ask them to include both display panels? We had room for both of them at the BlogHer so I'd like to have both in case we have space. If not, we just won't use them. Since we don't have a lot of color on the table, they helped to make the exhibit pop. ☺

I think this is a good list but feel free to add anything you think should be included.

- About Us
- Make the Call
- Stroke
- Heart Disease and Women
- Heart-Healthy Eating

Thanks!!

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2018 12:32 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: red dress exhibit table

Did you check with Brooke? I know she's making updates to the About the Office fact sheet, and want to be sure we're using the most recent version. I'm not sure there's a fact sheet for Make the Call.

Maybe something about exercise as well?

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2018 12:30 PM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: red dress exhibit table

The Heart Healthy-Eating fact sheet was updated last year and is on the website. Here are others I think we should display:

About Us
Make the Call
Heart Disease and Women
Heart-Healthy Eating

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2018 9:43 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: red dress exhibit table

I know we have some recently updated heart health fact sheets. Check with Brooke to see if the Healthy Eating fact sheet is also complete, I can't remember where it is in the process.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, February 02, 2018 9:49 AM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: red dress exhibit table

Sure. Today is extremely busy for me unless it's from 2-2:30 pm. Are you free on Monday morning? I don't remember the day that you are going on leave.

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Thursday, February 01, 2018 4:39 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: red dress exhibit table

Let's talk about what we want ordered first ☺

All requests would go to Elizabeth, with a cc for me.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Thursday, February 01, 2018 2:39 PM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: red dress exhibit table

No problem, thanks for letting me know. I think I've got someone to do it. Can you let me know who you work with at HS to get materials ordered?

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Thursday, February 01, 2018 2:36 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: red dress exhibit table

I just realized that I'm in Denver on 2/13 ... and won't be able to work the table for you ☹

R. Ann Abercrombie

Program Manager

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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 730F.2, Washington, DC 20201



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OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B7C3FE81D0034E96A174A52966EE06BC-ABERCROMBIE>
Recipient:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2018/02/07 11:12:51
Delivered Date:	2018/02/07 11:12:53

From:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: Heart related fact sheets
Date:	2018/02/06 13:09:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Perfect. Thanks, Brooke!!

I'll pay more attention to the bottom of the calendar. LOL!!!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2018 1:08 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Heart related fact sheets

No worries. I put the list of Coming Soon fact sheets on the bottom of the February page on that monthly calendar. It's also included in the Development Queue list Chuck sends every Friday (I'm not sure you receive that?).

You should definitely hold off on the About Us fact sheet. Jenn is not ready to approve and it takes Palladian/HS a while to make those updates. The one online is fine for the Red Dress event since it's not a ton of people who aren't already HHS....

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2018 12:46 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: Heart related fact sheets

Sorry for all of the questions.

I am working on the list of fact sheets and materials for Ann to order. Just one more question. We also want to have the About Us Fact sheet on the table for the Red Dress event next week. I know that you are working on the updated fact sheet so I want to check with you before we print it. Should we print what's on the website for do you want us hold off for the updated one?

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2018 12:34 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: Heart related fact sheets

Hi Brooke,

Is the Heart-Healthy Eating fact sheet in the process of being updated? Ann mentioned that she thought it was.

Candace Marshall, MPH
Health Communications Specialist



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OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
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Sender:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/02/06 13:09:21
Delivered Date:	2018/02/06 13:09:00

From:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
To:	Candace Marshall (candacemarshall19@gmail.com) <candacemarshall19@gmail.com>
Subject:	FW: USA Jobs
Date:	2018/01/19 17:19:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

From: Walker, Michelle (CDC/OD/OADC) [mailto:uxb6@cdc.gov]
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2018 9:20 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: USA Jobs

This is what the announcement said. I've attached the fact sheet too. It has to do with authentication and stronger passwords.

Login.gov account now required to apply for USAJobs announcements

Starting January 21, 2018, all USAJobs users must have a **login.gov** account to sign in and apply for jobs on the [USAJobs website](#). **Login.gov** is now the sole provider for multifactor authentication functionality for all USAJobs users. **Login.gov** will walk you through each step of the account set-up.

Read the attached fact sheet for details and [create your login.gov account](#) today! You will not be able to sign in or apply for jobs on the USAJobs website without a **login.gov** account.

Announcement Point of Contact: wzu1@cdc.gov

Attachments: : [23134 login.gov Agency Fact Sheet.docx](#)

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2018 9:05 AM
To: Walker, Michelle (CDC/OD/OADC) <uxb6@cdc.gov>; Shaver, Erica (CDC/OD/OADC) <enr0@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: USA Jobs

Really? Why is this even necessary? :-/

Thanks for letting me know. I haven't seen the announcement.

From: Walker, Michelle (CDC/OD/OADC) [<mailto:uxb6@cdc.gov>]
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2018 9:02 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Shaver, Erica (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: USA Jobs

Hey Candace and Erica,

I saw in our announcements today that you now have to create an account with login.gov to apply for USAjobs.

Here is the link <https://www.login.gov/> and just go to Manage Accounts to create a new account😊

Michelle

Sender:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
Recipient:	Candace Marshall (candacemarshall19@gmail.com) <candacemarshall19@gmail.com>
Sent Date:	2018/01/19 17:19:41
Delivered Date:	2018/01/19 17:19:00

From:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
To:	Williams, Shaletia (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=43a2dd81f1ea44a78038323dc48ce414-Williams, S>
Subject:	RE: Volunteering for OWH/FOH Red Dress Event
Date:	2018/02/12 16:16:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Sure. Just remind me when you see me. Or if you are free in the morning, come and grab one from me in the Great Hall. I should be there around 10.

From: Williams, Shaletia (OS/OASH)
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 4:11 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Volunteering for OWH/FOH Red Dress Event

Yes, save a pin for me. Thx

Shaletia Williams-Davis



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 OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
 Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 4:09 PM
To: Polacek, Aaron (OS/OASH) <Aaron.Polacek@hhs.gov>; Hurwitz, Emily (HHS/OASH) <Emily.Hurwitz@hhs.gov>; Douglas, Tracie (OS/OASH) (CTR) <Tracie.Douglas@hhs.gov>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Ceinos, Gustavo (OS/OASH) <Gustavo.Ceinos@hhs.gov>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Perrotte, Brittany (HHS/OASH) <Brittany.Perrotte@hhs.gov>; Williams, Shaletia (OS/OASH) <Shaletia.Williams@hhs.gov>
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) <Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov>; Smith, Adrienne M.

(OS/OASH) <Adrienne.Smith@hhs.gov>; Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI) <Beth.Collins-Sharp@hhs.gov>; Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH) <Nicole.Greene@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Volunteering for OWH/FOH Red Dress Event

Oh!! I have a few red dress pins, if you are interested.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 3:47 PM
To: Polacek, Aaron (OS/OASH); Hurwitz, Emily (HHS/OASH); Douglas, Tracie (OS/OASH) (CTR); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Ceinos, Gustavo (OS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Perrotte, Brittany (HHS/OASH); Williams, Shaletia (OS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Smith, Adrienne M. (OS/OASH); Collins Sharp, Beth (OS/OASH/OWH/DPI); Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH)
Subject: Volunteering for OWH/FOH Red Dress Event

Hi Everyone,

Thank you much for volunteering to help with the OWH exhibit tomorrow!! Below is a chart of assignments for the day. Please let me know ASAP if you are no longer able to volunteer.

OWH Exhibit Schedule		
10:00 AM-11:00 AM *	Set-up/ Exhibit	Aaron/ Emily/ Tracie
*event begins at 10:30 AM		
11:00 AM-12:00 PM	Exhibit	Adrienne/ Gustavo
12:00 PM-1:00 PM	Exhibit	Brooke/ Brittany
1:00 PM-2:00 PM *	Exhibit/ Break-Down	Sha/Candace
*event ends at 1:30 PM		

The Red Dress Fashion show and Exhibit will take place from 10:30 AM– 1:30 PM in the Great Hall. On the exhibit table, we will display OWH publications about heart health and healthy living as well as some information about the office. I've listed them here with a brief description.

- **About Us-** This one-pager provides an overview of the office and some of our work in women's health. I've attached this one so that you can review in advance. The work listed spans across divisions so some information may be less familiar.
- **Make the Call-** This is an OWH campaign to educate women about heart attacks, how to recognize the signs and get help. There isn't a fact sheet for Make the Call but we will have some of the graphics depicting the commons signs of heart attack for women. A nice this to share when passing this out is that the Make the Call information on our website has been updated and will be launched at the end of the week.
- **OWH Facts sheets on Stroke** (English &Spanish)

This fact sheet provides basics on stroke, key symptoms and what to do if someone feels they are having a stroke.

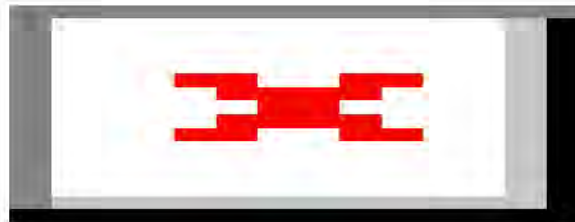
- **OWH Facts sheet on Heart Disease and Women-** (English & Spanish)

This fact sheet provides basic information on heart disease, symptoms in women and how it affects health conditions such as pregnancy and menopause.

- **OWH Facts sheet on Heart-Healthy Eating** (English & Spanish)

This fact sheet provides information on what foods can help lower and increase the risk for heart disease and stroke.

As people are coming to the table, they may be interested in getting more information about women's health information that's not heart health related. No worries, we can handle that! Please direct them to the About Us fact sheet. On the bottom of Page 2, the address for our website is listed. On the homepage, people can sign up for regular women's health updates from the office. Also listed are our social media channels that people can follow.



Please let me know if you have any questions. There is no special dress but since the event is about heart health, feel free to wear your red!

See you all tomorrow!! Thanks again!!
Candace

Candace Marshall, MPH
Health Communications Specialist



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Sender:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
Recipient:	Williams, Shalethia (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=43a2dd81f1ea44a78038323dc48ce414-Williams, S>
Sent Date:	2018/02/12 16:16:15
Delivered Date:	2018/02/12 16:16:00

To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39a84338d5c743fc9cd63a2fdaaefcdb-Bishop-Craw>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ac73a58ee24044bc98c4dd74e24d8740-Phenix, Adr>
Subject:	RE: OWH on social media
Date:	2018/03/28 17:14:10
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Okay, so everyone has presented their points and great ones at that!
It sounds like we are going with a “no” for responding.

Judge Jenn, what’s your final ruling? LOL

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 4:32 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: OWH on social media

Thanks Candace, I think this is a thoughtful approach. My concern is that for the most part people are not searching for “lesbian” or “bisexual” health information on the website, one of the reasons we removed the fact sheet. I’m happy to ask the contractors to produce a report on how many times those words were typed into the website’s search bar prior to the release of the Sunlight Foundation’s report if you’d like. But it’s not very many. We get a report on the Top Ten internal search terms every month as part of the MSR. I’ve never seen “lesbian” or “bisexual” in that part of the report.

If we were to post a statement I think it would be clear that it’s in response to the Sunlight Foundation’s report because we removed the fact sheet several months ago and did not make a statement at that time. We also have not made statements about any other changes on the website that the Sunlight Foundation has said they’re going to report on – removing Men’s Health, Healthy Aging, and our breast cancer information. I don’t want to set a precedent here.

While I understand that no one is typing in “women who have sex with women” into the search bar in the same way very few people are typing in “lesbian” or “bisexual health” into the search bar, if we put up a statement about how or where to find the information on our site it contradicts the points we’ve made with the media that putting up a page dedicated to this population’s health does not reflect best practices or the ways in which people search for health information online.

If we were to put up a statement to help people find this information, it is likely that they would only be looking for it because they were directed to this issue by the Sunlight Foundation report.

In general I'm not in favor of responding on Twitter. But if we do, I think it should be to correct any inaccuracies and leave it at that and not respond further, as you suggested.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 4:18 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: OWH on social media

I should have used the word "statement" vs. "explanation" but either way, I think that we should help people to understand how to look for this information. If in the past, I found lesbian and bisexual health information on Womenshealth.gov by using those specific search terms and those terms have now been changed, how would I know to use the specific terms "women who have sex with women" to find this information? We need to say something and I think the longer we wait, the more it seems like we are being defensive or trying to cover up something when the reality is, we aren't. A decision was made that affects how people can now find our information. It's a normal part of communications.

At the least, I think we should provide some type of disclaimer so that when "lesbian" or "bisexual" or any other associated words are typed, a message appears as a pop up or on the search results to explain what words are now being used. We don't need the reason why they have been changed but a statement of how people can now find the information. A statement was provided for the news outlets but what statement is in place for the people who really use our website (and until recently, I doubt it was news outlets 😊)

Once we provide a statement to our users and sent a tweet about it, I don't think we need go back and forth with responding to the responses.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 3:44 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: OWH on social media

My 2 cents:

*If we tweet, yes we need to run by Tara.

*I don't think we should point out where information can be found—looks defensive—and becomes too in the weeds.

*We need to decide if we go Brooke's way and express that we are using more inclusive language now via a tweet, write a statement to post on our website and tweet that out, or let it go. And if we tweet, they may respond with another tweet and we will need to engage.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 3:33 PM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS);

Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)

Subject: RE: OWH on social media

If the decision earlier was to not respond on Twitter then does this mean we are now responding? If so I think Tara should review and clear since she's been handling the media aspect of this.

Also, for any information that is posted anywhere I'd prefer to emphasize that we started using more inclusive language on the site in 2016, including "women who have sex with women" or "same-sex relationships", rather than trying to list all of the places that we have information for lesbian or bisexual women. The list is going to wax and wane over time depending on the health information we have on the site. Not everyone identifies as lesbian or bisexual who isn't cisgender so from an editorial perspective I'd like to move away from this terminology. The overall point is that most people agree that it's inappropriate to have a fact sheet on an entire population group's health because it's very difficult to categorize something as personal as sexual orientation today (sexual orientation being the population-level category). In the same way that OMH reorganized their population health information (see <https://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/omh/browse.aspx?lvl=3&lvlid=61> for an example) we've edited our information to be more inclusive and to reflect the way in which users search for health information online.

Also, we've got to start emphasizing that this is a consumer health information site, not a place to find policy information. The site does not reflect any policy positions.

From: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)

Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 3:10 PM

To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

Subject: RE: OWH on social media

I don't think of this as an explanation, but rather an indication of where information can be found. Or highlighting resources.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)

Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 3:09 PM

To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

Subject: RE: OWH on social media

I don't think that we could fit a full explanation into one tweet.

If we tried to break a response into several tweets, I'm afraid that people may misinterpret or respond to one tweet without looking at all of them for a full explanation.

Can we place a response on the website and then send out messages that link to the response?

From: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)

Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 3:01 PM

To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

Subject: RE: OWH on social media

Do we want to draft a tweet about any resources we have available? Or that our LB information has been integrated into subject area drop down menus?

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 12:11 PM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: OWH on social media

Just giving everyone a heads up that this week, March 26- 30, is National LGBTHealth AwarenessWeek. Sunlight Web Integrity Project has posted their story about OWH again so we may see some more social media activity around it.

<https://twitter.com/SunWebIntegrity/status/979013273449324546>

CM

Candace Marshall, MPH
Health Communications Specialist



OWH_logo_150

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OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39a84338d5c743fc9cd63a2fdaaefcdb-Bishop-Craw>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ac73a58ee24044bc98c4dd74e24d8740-Phenix, Adr>
Sent Date:	2018/03/28 17:11:43
Delivered Date:	2018/03/28 17:14:10
Message Flags:	Unsent

To:	Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39a84338d5c743fc9cd63a2fdaaefcdb-Bishop-Craw>
Subject:	Fact Sheet to Video
Date:	2017/04/06 13:03:59
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Jenn,

I want to get a little more clarification about the project one more time before HS moves forward with storyboards.

Originally the videos would serve the purpose of presenting cleared OWH content in a different form to reach the increasing number of people who look for health information online and watch health content via video.

Last week, we talked about modifying this concept to include teaser videos to promote the website.

During a call on Tuesday, I heard that the website was not going to be promoted until it is completed but HS would work on a promotion plan for the website before the contract ends.

So, this leaves me wondering if the teaser videos to promote the website should fall within this project or be a part of the official website promotion. I don't think they I can set up another meeting with everyone to discuss further.

Thanks!
Candace

Candace Marshall, MPH
Health Communications Specialist



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OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Recipient:	Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39a84338d5c743fc9cd63a2fdaaefcdb-Bishop-Craw>
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Delivered Date:	2017/04/06 13:03:59
Message Flags:	Unsent

From:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: OWH on social media
Date:	2018/03/28 16:51:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

It would be wonderful to release the module!!!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 4:51 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: OWH on social media

Right?!?!

I wish we could say that additional sexual health information is “Coming Soon” but we can’t and that probably wouldn’t solve the concern anyway. Grrrr. I’m sorry you have to deal with this on social media.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 4:48 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: OWH on social media

Thanks Brooke.

It seems like we can go back and forth and the decision isn’t even ours. LOL
Jenn should weigh in with a hard decision.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 4:32 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: OWH on social media

Thanks Candace, I think this is a thoughtful approach. My concern is that for the most part people are not searching for “lesbian” or “bisexual” health information on the website, one of the reasons we removed the fact sheet. I’m happy to ask the contractors to produce a report on how many times those words were typed into the website’s search bar prior to the release of the Sunlight Foundation’s report if you’d like. But it’s not very many. We get a report on the Top Ten internal search terms every month as part of the MSR. I’ve never seen “lesbian” or “bisexual” in that part of the report.

If we were to post a statement I think it would be clear that it's in response to the Sunlight Foundation's report because we removed the fact sheet several months ago and did not make a statement at that time. We also have not made statements about any other changes on the website that the Sunlight Foundation has said they're going to report on – removing Men's Health, Healthy Aging, and our breast cancer information. I don't want to set a precedent here.

While I understand that no one is typing in "women who have sex with women" into the search bar in the same way very few people are typing in "lesbian" or "bisexual health" into the search bar, if we put up a statement about how or where to find the information on our site it contradicts the points we've made with the media that putting up a page dedicated to this population's health does not reflect best practices or the ways in which people search for health information online.

If we were to put up a statement to help people find this information, it is likely that they would only be looking for it because they were directed to this issue by the Sunlight Foundation report.

In general I'm not in favor of responding on Twitter. But if we do, I think it should be to correct any inaccuracies and leave it at that and not respond further, as you suggested.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 4:18 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: OWH on social media

I should have used the word "statement" vs. "explanation" but either way, I think that we should help people to understand how to look for this information. If in the past, I found lesbian and bisexual health information on Womenshealth.gov by using those specific search terms and those terms have now been changed, how would I know to use the specific terms "women who have sex with women" to find this information? We need to say something and I think the longer we wait, the more it seems like we are being defensive or trying to cover up something when the reality is, we aren't. A decision was made that affects how people can now find our information. It's a normal part of communications.

At the least, I think we should provide some type of disclaimer so that when "lesbian" or "bisexual" or any other associated words are typed, a message appears as a pop up or on the search results to explain what words are now being used. We don't need the reason why they have been changed but a statement of how people can now find the information. A statement was provided for the news outlets but what statement is in place for the people who really use our website (and until recently, I doubt it was news outlets 😊)

Once we provide a statement to our users and sent a tweet about it, I don't think we need go back and forth with responding to the responses.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 3:44 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: OWH on social media

My 2 cents:

*If we tweet, yes we need to run by Tara.

*I don't think we should point out where information can be found—looks defensive—and becomes too in the weeds.

*We need to decide if we go Brooke's way and express that we are using more inclusive language now via a tweet, write a statement to post on our website and tweet that out, or let it go. And if we tweet, they may respond with another tweet and we will need to engage.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 3:33 PM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: OWH on social media

If the decision earlier was to not respond on Twitter then does this mean we are now responding? If so I think Tara should review and clear since she's been handling the media aspect of this.

Also, for any information that is posted anywhere I'd prefer to emphasize that we started using more inclusive language on the site in 2016, including "women who have sex with women" or "same-sex relationships", rather than trying to list all of the places that we have information for lesbian or bisexual women. The list is going to wax and wane over time depending on the health information we have on the site. Not everyone identifies as lesbian or bisexual who isn't cisgender so from an editorial perspective I'd like to move away from this terminology. The overall point is that most people agree that it's inappropriate to have a fact sheet on an entire population group's health because it's very difficult to categorize something as personal as sexual orientation today (sexual orientation being the population-level category). In the same way that OMH reorganized their population health information (see <https://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/omh/browse.aspx?lvl=3&lvlid=61> for an example) we've edited our information to be more inclusive and to reflect the way in which users search for health information online.

Also, we've got to start emphasizing that this is a consumer health information site, not a place to find policy information. The site does not reflect any policy positions.

From: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 3:10 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: OWH on social media

I don't think of this as an explanation, but rather an indication of where information can be found. Or highlighting resources.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 3:09 PM

To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: OWH on social media

I don't think that we could fit a full explanation into one tweet.
If we tried to break a response into several tweets, I'm afraid that people may misinterpret or respond to one tweet without looking at all of them for a full explanation.

Can we place a response on the website and then send out messages that link to the response?

From: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 3:01 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: OWH on social media

Do we want to draft a tweet about any resources we have available? Or that our LB information has been integrated into subject area drop down menus?

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 12:11 PM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: OWH on social media

Just giving everyone a heads up that this week, March 26- 30, is National LGBTHealth AwarenessWeek. Sunlight Web Integrity Project has posted their story about OWH again so we may see some more social media activity around it.

<https://twitter.com/SunWebIntegrity/status/979013273449324546>

CM

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Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/03/28 16:51:29
Delivered Date:	2018/03/28 16:51:00

From:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
To:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
Subject:	RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review
Date:	2017/03/03 15:25:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Ahhh yes.
Well, I agree!! ☺ LOL

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 3:24 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review

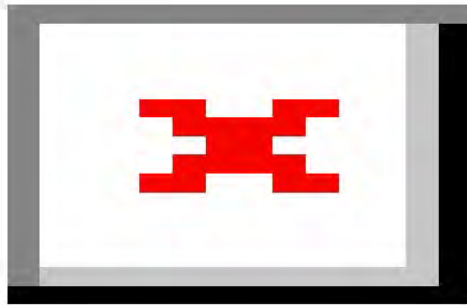
Did you see in my first email to HS how I asked to remove one of the *What's your health style?* ;) ;) Hee hee.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 3:18 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review

Jill,

I agree with some of Brooke's comments so I highlighted them below and added my feedback.

I took this screenshot of the 1st page. I think one of the "What's your health style?" should be deleted.



Also, I feel like the quiz questions are shouting at me. They're bolded and I think it's unnecessary. I agree that the text is hard to focus on with it being bold. Because the pic is so big, I would suggest making both the pic and font smaller (similar to this: <http://www.doctoroz.com/quiz/quiz-how-healthy-are-you?quiz=true>)

I don't like the graphic treatment of the image – the image for each question seems random and forced. The "unit" of the question, image, and answer choices all seem like it's not a cohesive unit and like each element was designed by a different person. Is there anything they can do graphically, like using one or more of the NHHW colors in a box outline or something, to make it all hang together and seem more like a natural part of the NHHW pages? The quiz seems like something developed at the last minute and thrown onto the site. Why doesn't it have some of the same graphic treatment as the ages and stages content which seems like a natural part of the site?

The images should be smaller because my eye tends to focus on the picture and not the answer options. I do understand Brooke's comments but I think it's because there is a lot of white space on the page. A border could help this.

Lastly – on the texting and driving question there needs to be more words in the answer choice that goes "So....I know it's wrong but I do it anyway." The question says "What do you do?" and the answer "I do it anyway" doesn't make sense. The answer choice should be changed to "So, I know it's wrong, but I text back anyway." Or something that includes the verb "text."

I agree with this comment

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 12:27 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: FW: NHHW 2017 Website Review

I don't want Brooke's comments influencing you, but just in case you want to see Brooke's comments on the quiz...

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 11:36 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review

Sorry – I didn't focus on the quiz 'cause I knew you were ☺

I'm not a fan of the layout. But I didn't want to say that because I'm not sure anything can be fixed at this point. The quiz pages look cluttered and confusing to me. The page at <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/whats-your-health-style> has too many different texts/fonts. I feel like this happens every year w/ NWHW pages – there are so many different text sizes, styles, and colors. It really doesn't seem sleek and professional.

Also, I feel like the quiz questions are shouting at me. They're bolded and I think it's unnecessary. I agree that the text is hard to focus on with it being bold. Because the pic is so big, I would suggest making both the pic and font smaller (similar to this: <http://www.doctoroz.com/quiz/quiz-how-healthy-are-you?quiz=true>)

I don't like the graphic treatment of the image – the image for each question seems random and forced. The "unit" of the question, image, and answer choices all seem like it's not a cohesive unit and like each element was designed by a different person. Is there anything they can do graphically, like using one or more of the NWHW colors in a box outline or something, to make it all hang together and seem more like a natural part of the NWHW pages? The quiz seems like something developed at the last minute and thrown onto the site. Why doesn't it have some of the same graphic treatment as the ages and stages content which seems like a natural part of the site?

Graphic: The images should be smaller because my eye tends to focus on the picture and not the answer options.

I do understand Brooke's comments but I think it's because there is a lot of white space on the page. A border could help this.

Also, the image for scheduling something w/ a calendar – since that has a white background and there's no border around the image it tends to "run into" the question at the top and it looks weird with the other images which are not a white background so they have a natural border where the image ends.

On the results page there seem to be several different fonts – the Share Your Results font is very different than the rest of the site for example. Can't more stuff be the same exact font – font size, font color, font style (bold, whatever)?

Lastly – on the texting and driving question there needs to be more words in the answer choice that goes "So....I know it's wrong but I do it anyway." The question says "What do you do?" and the answer "I

do it anyway" doesn't make sense. The answer choice should be changed to "So, I know it's wrong, but I text back anyway." Or something that includes the verb "text."

I agree with this comment

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 11:20 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review

Hi Brooke –

Did you have any comments re: the quiz (besides the not working on Chrome)? Did you agree with my comments from yesterday? I spoke to HS about it last night.

Thanks,

Me

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 9:55 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review

The quiz does not show up for me when using Chrome Version 55.0.2883.75 m. It works fine in IE on my computer.

I think we should put the disclaimer and the accompanying asterisks on any Ages and Stages recommendation that includes an age range. Currently it's not consistent – some age range suggestions have the disclaimer and asterisk and others do not. The ones that need it are:

20s
HPV (26 and younger*)
Pap (21 and older*)

50s
Lung cancer (55 and older*)

60s
Preventing falls with vitamin D and exercise (65 and older*)
Osteoporosis (65 and older*)
Pap and HPV (65 and younger*)

The disclaimer is the same one that is on some of the other pages:

** The decision to get any medical test or procedure is a personal one between you and your doctor, at any age. These age ranges are suggested by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommendations and may not apply to every person.*

Which brings up the point that I think it's required that we add text to each Age page that says where this information comes from. Something like:

These guidelines are based on recommendations from the [U.S. Preventive Services Task Force](#), the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices](#), the [Women's Preventive Services Guidelines](#), the [2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans](#), and the [Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans](#).

I don't think you have to have the hyperlinks if that junks it up too much.

Jill knows that my personal opinion on the "help women understand" language which I feel is very condescending. I would recommend on the About NWHW page and the NWHW Fact Sheet we say instead:

The week also serves as a time to help encourage women to take understand what steps they can take to improve their health.

On the page at <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/tools/social-media/> I think you need to say the date and time that the Thunderclap will "thunder."

On the same page I don't understand why there is a hard line return in the first tweet that puts "20" on the next line. It looks awkward and seems unnecessary.

On the infographic at http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/files/documents/nwhw_infographc-eat-healthy.pdf not all of the links at the bottom (sources and body text) are clickable.

On the infographic at http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/files/documents/nwhw_infographc-eat-healthy.pdf the link to the NWHW website near the bottom is not clickable.

Thanks!
Brooke

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 4:37 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn; Patricia Nicastri; Laura Koehler; Darcy Sawatzki; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review

+Brooke, Candace and AP

Thank you, Alli and team.

Brooke and I are reviewing it in full. I also asked Candace to review all the social media-related content and the quiz. AP will review it if she has time.

On a quick look with the quiz: I think [the home page](#) could be improved. We repeat *What's your health style?* Maybe we can get rid of the first mention where it says "Quiz: *What's your health style?*" I don't think there's a need to call out that it's a quiz there, esp. when our disclaimer states that "this quiz..." . And maybe we can make the left navigation button catchier:

- *What's your health style quiz*
- *What's your health style?*
- *Find out what's your health style*

Feel free to call me.

Jill

*Also re: your VM about the video: We may want to submit the storyboards, but I'll have more of a sense after talking to Tara. Stay tuned.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 2:26 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn; Patricia Nicastrì; Laura Koehler; Darcy Sawatzki
Subject: NWHW 2017 Website Review

Hi Jill,

I'm excited to share with you the preview links for the NWHW 2017 website:
<http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw>

As you're reviewing, please keep the following in mind:

- **The pink date:** I know we talked about removing this from the header, but we think this information needs to be on every page. If we remove it, the date is pretty buried. It only appears on the About page and the Fact sheet page within the page text, so it's not very visible. We recommend keeping the date on every page, but we should determine when you'd like to pull it down after NWHW.
- **External links:** Not all of the external links currently open in a new tab, but this is actually something we're setting up to happen automatically. They should be behaving properly soon, definitely before the launch.
- **Homepage:** We were unable to rebuild the dropdown "Select your age group" because it used deprecated code that doesn't work on our current server environment. You'll see that we instead used the same age bar that we use on the "Steps for better health" pages. Let us know what you think.
- **Partner and Ambassador page:** We're working on adding icons to the bottom of these pages, but it's taking some extra time because the templates for these pages are unique. This may happen post launch.
- **Partner page:** We're working on the spacing on this page and the size of the logos so that they're smaller. They'll appear [3x3 like last year](#). This change will happen before the launch.
- **Infographics:** Some of the share messages aren't working properly, but we're working on it and will have it corrected before the launch.
- **Quiz:** Similar issue with the share messages, but we're working on it. Also, for the results, we're looking to remove some of the space between the share buttons and the explanation for each result.

We're looking forward to your feedback! Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Alli

ALLISON HALL-JORDAN

Account Supervisor

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WASHINGTON, DC 20005
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D 202.706.7439



cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226

Sender:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
Recipient:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
Sent Date:	2017/03/03 15:25:07
Delivered Date:	2017/03/03 15:25:00

From:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
To:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
Subject:	RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review
Date:	2017/03/03 13:07:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thanks for sharing.

I'm looking at the quiz now.

I did notice that it didn't load in Chrome when I first tried to take it. I'll share my feedback shortly.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 12:27 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: FW: NWHW 2017 Website Review

I don't want Brooke's comments influencing you, but just in case you want to see Brooke's comments on the quiz...

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 11:36 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review

Sorry – I didn't focus on the quiz 'cause I knew you were ☺

I'm not a fan of the layout. But I didn't want to say that because I'm not sure anything can be fixed at this point. The quiz pages look cluttered and confusing to me. The page at <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/whats-your-health-style> has too many different texts/fonts. I feel like this happens every year w/ NWHW pages – there are so many different text sizes, styles, and colors. It really doesn't seem sleek and professional.

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Hi Brooke –

Did you have any comments re: the quiz (besides the not working on Chrome)? Did you agree with my comments from yesterday? I spoke to HS about it last night.

Thanks,

Me

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 9:55 AM
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Cc: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review

The quiz does not show up for me when using Chrome Version 55.0.2883.75 m. It works fine in IE on my computer.

I think we should put the disclaimer and the accompanying asterisks on any Ages and Stages recommendation that includes an age range. Currently it's not consistent – some age range suggestions have the disclaimer and asterisk and others do not. The ones that need it are:

20s
HPV (26 and younger*)
Pap (21 and older*)

50s
Lung cancer (55 and older*)

60s
Preventing falls with vitamin D and exercise (65 and older*)

Osteoporosis (65 and older*)
Pap and HPV (65 and younger*)

The disclaimer is the same one that is on some of the other pages:

** The decision to get any medical test or procedure is a personal one between you and your doctor, at any age. These age ranges are suggested by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommendations and may not apply to every person.*

Which brings up the point that I think it's required that we add text to each Age page that says where this information comes from. Something like:

These guidelines are based on recommendations from the [U.S. Preventive Services Task Force](#), the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices](#), the [Women's Preventive Services Guidelines](#), the [2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans](#), and the [Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans](#).

I don't think you have to have the hyperlinks if that junks it up too much.

Jill knows that my personal opinion on the "help women understand" language which I feel is very condescending. I would recommend on the About NWHW page and the NWHW Fact Sheet we say instead:

The week also serves as a time to ~~help~~ **encourage** women ~~to take~~ **understand** what steps they ~~can take~~ to improve their health.

On the page at <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/tools/social-media/> I think you need to say the date and time that the Thunderclap will "thunder."

On the same page I don't understand why there is a hard line return in the first tweet that puts "20" on the next line. It looks awkward and seems unnecessary.

On the infographic at http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/files/documents/nwhw_infographc-eat-healthy.pdf not all of the links at the bottom (sources and body text) are clickable.

On the infographic at http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/files/documents/nwhw_infographc-eat-healthy.pdf the link to the NWHW website near the bottom is not clickable.

Thanks!
Brooke

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 4:37 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn; Patricia Nicastrì; Laura Koehler; Darcy Sawatzki; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review

+Brooke, Candace and AP

Thank you, Alli and team.

Brooke and I are reviewing it in full. I also asked Candace to review all the social media-related content and the quiz. AP will review it if she has time.

On a quick look with the quiz: I think [the home page](#) could be improved. We repeat *What's your health style?* Maybe we can get rid of the first mention where it says "Quiz: *What's your health style?*" I don't think there's a need to call out that it's a quiz there, esp. when our disclaimer states that "this quiz...". And maybe we can make the left navigation button catchier:

- *What's your health style quiz*
- *What's your health style?*
- *Find out what's your health style*

Feel free to call me.

Jill

*Also re: your VM about the video: We may want to submit the storyboards, but I'll have more of a sense after talking to Tara. Stay tuned.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 2:26 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn; Patricia Nicastrì; Laura Koehler; Darcy Sawatzki
Subject: NWHW 2017 Website Review

Hi Jill,

I'm excited to share with you the preview links for the NWHW 2017 website:
<http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw>

As you're reviewing, please keep the following in mind:

- **The pink date:** I know we talked about removing this from the header, but we think this information needs to be on every page. If we remove it, the date is pretty buried. It only appears on the About page and the Fact sheet page within the page text, so it's not very visible. We recommend keeping the date on every page, but we should determine when you'd like to pull it down after NWHW.
- **External links:** Not all of the external links currently open in a new tab, but this is actually something we're setting up to happen automatically. They should be behaving properly soon, definitely before the launch.
- **Homepage:** We were unable to rebuild the dropdown "Select your age group" because it used deprecated code that doesn't work on our current server environment. You'll see that we instead used the same age bar that we use on the "Steps for better health" pages. Let us know what you think.
- **Partner and Ambassador page:** We're working on adding icons to the bottom of these pages, but it's taking some extra time because the templates for these pages are unique. This may happen post launch.

- **Partner page:** We're working on the spacing on this page and the size of the logos so that they're smaller. They'll appear [3x3 like last year](#). This change will happen before the launch.
- **Infographics:** Some of the share messages aren't working properly, but we're working on it and will have it corrected before the launch.
- **Quiz:** Similar issue with the share messages, but we're working on it. Also, for the results, we're looking to remove some of the space between the share buttons and the explanation for each result.

We're looking forward to your feedback! Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Alli

ALLISON HALL-JORDAN
Account Supervisor

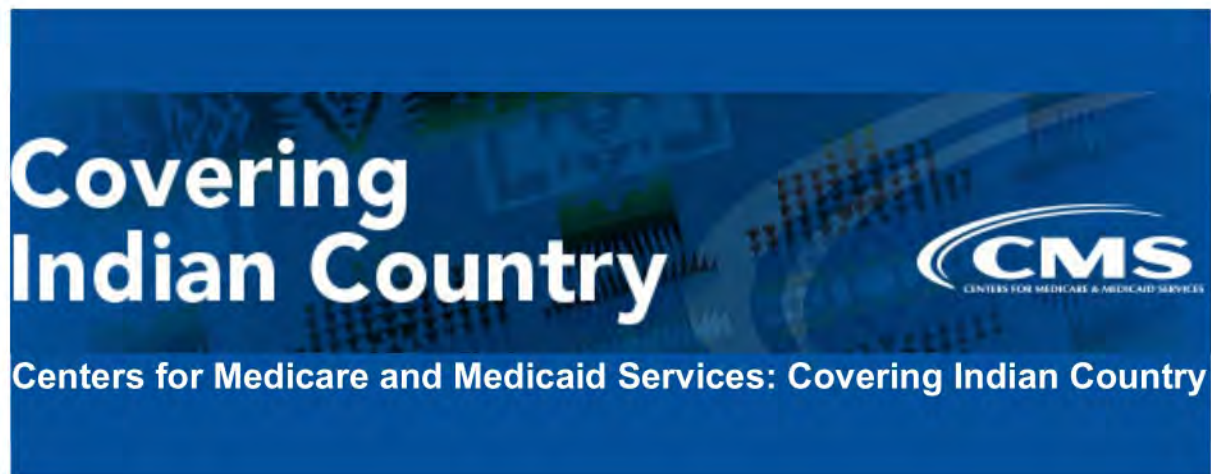
1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
D 202.706.7439



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To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	Covering Indian Country – May 2018
Date:	2018/05/08 09:05:21
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note



May 2018

Confederated Salish Kootenai Tribes encourage health careers

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) are working to improve both tribal health care and tribal employment by sponsoring programs



HHS-18-0191-D-000333

help youth and young adults enter health care careers.

CSKT Tribal Health Scholars

"If we want our youth to be successful, engaging them in health care careers is a great way to help them be successful as adults," said Anna Whiting Sorrell, Director of Operation, Policy and Planning for the CSKT Tribal Health Department.

The CSKT Tribal Health Scholars Program works with college students interested in pursuing health care careers, and offers support. This support includes summer training and employment opportunities, mentorship with Tribal Health Department staff, and small scholarships, said Sorrell. Participants are also encouraged to stay in touch with the Tribal Health Department when they return home on school breaks.

"If you're interested in being a dental hygienist, a dental technician, a pharmacy technician, a nurse, a pharmacist... we're going to find a place for you in Tribal Health."

— Anna Whiting Sorrell, Director of Operation, Policy and Planning, CSKT Tribal Health Department

The program emerged from a desire to spur tribal members to begin considering health care careers early in their education. So far, participants have graduated and taken positions with the Tribal Health Department as nurses, health administrators, a pharmacist, and more.

In addition to the Tribal Health Scholars Program, CSKT also offers a summer youth leadership program for middle school, high school, and college students. This program exposes students to health care careers as a positive career path and teaches about

health and wellness.

Even if participants in these programs choose health care careers outside the CSKT Tribal Health Department, Sorrell sees it as an overall benefit to tribal members who will encounter them in nontribal health settings. "It's also important we infuse the overall health system with Indian people," she said.

May: Coverage for every family



Find health coverage that is right for you and that keeps your whole family healthy.

You may even qualify for free or low-cost insurance through Medicaid.

Sign up at healthcare.gov or by calling 1-800-318-2596.

CMS ad that shows a family smiling: Your family is unique. Find health coverage that is right for you and that keeps your whole family healthy. You may even qualify for free or low-cost insurance through Medicaid. Sign up at healthcare.gov or by calling 1-800-318-2596.

Share this ad in your newsletter or on your website. Other sizes are available on CMS's [Outreach and Education Resources page](#).

Public service announcements

Share these informational audio clips and videos on your local radio station, website, and Facebook page.



Soundcloud Audio

[English](#)

[Navajo](#)

[Yupik](#)

[Lakota](#)

[Ojibwe](#)

[Zuni](#)



Youtube Video

[English](#)

[Navajo](#)

[Yupik](#)

[Lakota](#)

[Ojibwe](#)

[Zuni](#)



Twitter

Tweet it

American Indians and Alaska Natives, find health coverage that's right for your unique family.

<https://youtu.be/nV9J98gSn8o>

#Nativehealth

Brochures and flyers



Collage of five images that includes the following resources: My Health – Children’s Health Checklist; AI/AN Medicaid Enrollment flyers; Employer Sponsored Insurance For Your Family; and My Health – Men’s Health Checklist

New resources

[My Health—Children’s Health Checklist](#) (PDF, 965 KB, 2 pp) empowers parents to review preventive health activities with their child’s doctor.

[My Health—Men’s Health Checklist](#) (PDF, 1.4 MB, 2 pp) provides a preventive health checklist for men to track their health.

Additional resources

[Employer-Sponsored Insurance for You and Your Family](#) (PDF, 578 KB, 2 pp) explains how to enroll family members in employer-sponsored insurance and other ways to get health coverage if employers don’t offer insurance.

[AI/AN Medicaid Enroll Any Time Flyer – Family flyer](#) (PDF, 477 KB, 1 p) explains who is eligible for Medicaid and CHIP and the benefits of health coverage, and includes a

space for your local tribal health information.

[AI/AN Medicaid Enroll Any Time Flyer – Mom & Daughter flyer](#) (PDF, 507 KB, 1 p) explains who is eligible for Medicaid and CHIP and the benefits of health coverage, and includes a space for your local tribal health information.

Download these files or order copies of these resources on the [Tribal Products Ordering Page](#). Please allow 2 weeks for your order to be completed.

Additional Resources

National Indian Women's Health Resource Center focuses on tradition to help Native families

The Oklahoma-based [National Indian Women's Health Resource Center](#) (NIWHRC) helps its clients address physical and mental health issues through culturally relevant practices and programs that build on Native traditions.

The organization's program Passing on Tradition, for example, is led by Native women who mentor Native girls. Its other trainings cover health systems, cultural competency, traditional leadership, and community promise. This work was recently featured in a [Cherokee Phoenix article](#).

Many of the issues NIWHRC works on can be sensitive topics—human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), sexually transmitted diseases, teen pregnancy,

substance abuse, and suicide.

“We do our best to involve the entire family and reach Native youth. Since our focus is on trainings and classes, we reach out to parents and have built a trusting relationship with tribes,” said Executive Director Janie Dibble. “Native women and families often come to us looking for assistance and resources.”

“Partnerships, coalitions, and prevention education are key to what we do. We have worked closely with tribes like Cherokee Nation, tribal clinics, and hospitals throughout the years.”

- Janie Dibble, NIWHRC Executive Director



Janie Dibble, National Indian Women's Health Resource Center executive director, sorts through education materials in her office at 228 S. Muskogee Avenue in Tahlequah. BRITTNEY BENNETT/CHEROKEE PHOENIX

Janie Dibble reviewing educational material. (Photo courtesy of Cherokee Phoenix)

The resource center also provides health insurance assistance and often makes referrals. They reach about 1,500 people in Oklahoma.

Check out [NIWHRC resources](#), including:

- • [Breast cancer fact sheet](#) (PDF, 238 KB, 1p)
- • [Heart health fact sheet](#) (PDF, 277 KB, 1p)
- • [Teen pregnancy fact sheet](#) (PDF, 252 KB, 1p)
- • [HIV fact sheet](#) (PDF, 370 KB, 1p)

New Report: HIV diagnosis rate increasing for AI/AN men

Results from a recently published [study of Indian Health Service \(IHS\) data](#) (PDF, 4.26 MB, 6 pp) suggest a need for initiatives aimed at preventing HIV infection among American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) men.

According to an analysis of data from IHS electronic health records, AI/AN men accounted for two-thirds of new HIV diagnoses by IHS between 2005 and 2014. Additionally, the rate of new HIV diagnoses among AI/AN men increased between 2010 and 2014.

The analysis of IHS data also shows that late-stage diagnosis is common in Native communities. Late-stage diagnosis can significantly impact public health because HIV transmission is more likely to occur when people with HIV are unaware of their disease status.

Addressing the stigma around HIV in Native communities can help improve prevention and timely diagnosis of HIV infection. You can help by reminding patients that HIV-related support services are available and that HIV testing and treatment are often

covered by Medicare, Medicaid, and health insurance.

CMS Medicare trainings

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services recently updated two of its [training modules on Medicare](#)—Module 1, [Understanding Medicare](#), and Module 9, [Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Coverage](#).

These classroom modules are part of a larger self-managed training that covers all aspects of Medicare. They are designed to help health care navigators and trainers learn about the program and share that knowledge with others.

IHS builds National Committee on Heroin, Opioids and Pain Efforts (HOPE)

The IHS [National Committee on Heroin, Opioids and Pain Efforts \(HOPE\)](#) cultivates partnerships with tribes to identify and disseminate culturally sensitive resources, improve access to treatment, and reduce substance abuse-related deaths.

Its workgroups focus on prescriber support, medication assisted treatment, harm reduction, perinatal substance abuse, program effectiveness, technical assistance, and communications/website maintenance.

View and share the inaugural [HOPE newsletter](#). It highlights resources and topics such as prescriber training, behavioral health policy, and treatment.

Report details Native child health and nutrition in Minnesota

Cover of report: Final Report: Charting Pathways on Early Childhood Development and Nutrition for Minnesota's Native Children, image of smiling American Indian girl A new report from Healthy Children, Healthy Nations seeks to establish a framework to improve the health and nutrition of Native children in Minnesota.

[Charting Pathways on Early Childhood Development and Nutrition](#) recommends focusing on three areas:



- Expanding Native early childhood development programs to incorporate traditional Native knowledge and culture
- Providing healthy early nutrition, including supporting breastfeeding, offering healthy food in childcare settings, and serving healthy traditional foods in the home
- Building whole children, families, and communities by helping address historical trauma, adverse childhood experiences, and substance abuse

The Healthy Children, Healthy Nations Initiative is a partnership of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community's Seeds of Native Health campaign, Better Way Foundation, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis Center for Indian Country Development.

Calendar of Events

CMS ITU trainings

These trainings are for business staff, benefits coordinators, medical records staff, and patient registration staff. They cover CMS Tribal Affairs updates, Medicare, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, the Health Insurance Marketplace, state-administered programs, Social Security, and Veterans Affairs.

Trainings in 2018:

- • [May 8–9 in Dallas, TX](#)
- • [May 10–11 in Chicago, IL](#)
- • [May 17 in Kansas City, MO](#)
- • [June in Nashville, TN](#)
- • June in a location TBD

Protecting Indian Health and Human Services Programs and their Beneficiaries Conference

May 15–16, 2018

Edmond, OK

[Learn more](#) (PDF, 732 KB, 1 p)

Learn about health care and grants management compliance for U.S. Department of Health and Human Services funds.

Webinar: Zika Champions in Indian Country

May 18, 2018

1 p.m.–2 p.m. eastern

[Learn more and register](#)

The webinar “Zika Champions in Indian Country: Spotlight on Three Zika Projects funded by the National Indian Health Board,” will highlight the efforts of three tribes working to address the threat of Zika in their communities.

Tribal Opioid Consultation

May 21-22, 2018

Prior Lake, MN

[Learn more](#) (PDF, 290 KB, 4 pp)

This consultation will take place in conjunction with the National Indian Health Board’s Tribal Public Health Summit. It will be led by the National Institutes of Health, IHS, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. It is free of charge, and no prior registration is needed.

2018 National Tribal Public Health Summit

May 22–24, 2018

Prior Lake, MN

[Learn more](#)

The National Indian Health Board is hosting a summit for public health professionals, elected leaders, advocates, and researchers. The conference theme, “Balance, Harmony, Culture, Health,” will feature solutions for Indian Country. Topics include:

- health promotion and disease prevention
- public health policy, infrastructure, and capacity
- substance misuse and behavioral health
- climate change and environmental health
- cancer prevention and treatment

National Tribal Health Conference

September 17–20, 2018

Oklahoma City, OK

The National Indian Health Board is coordinating its 35th Annual National Tribal Health Conference at the Renaissance Oklahoma City Convention Center. More details

will be available at a later date.



About the Newsletter

Covering Indian Country is published by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Division of Tribal Affairs to share resources, success stories, and best practices with the people who connect tribal communities to health insurance.

[Download Adobe Reader](#) for the best reading experience with PDF files.

You're getting this message because you subscribed to get email updates from the [Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services \(CMS\)](#).

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Sent Date:	2018/05/08 09:04:02
Delivered Date:	2018/05/08 09:05:21

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To:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
Subject:	RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review
Date:	2017/03/03 15:18:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

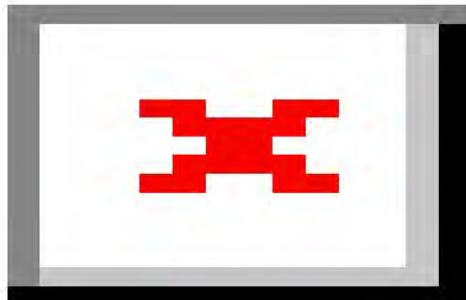
Forgot to add:
Let me know if you want to discuss

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Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 3:18 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review

Jill,

I agree with some of Brooke's comments so I highlighted them below and added my feedback.

I took this screenshot of the 1st page. I think one of the "What's your health style?" should be deleted.



Also, I feel like the quiz questions are shouting at me. They're bolded and I think it's unnecessary. I agree that the text is hard to focus on with it being bold. Because the pic is so big, I would suggest

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The disclaimer is the same one that is on some of the other pages:

** The decision to get any medical test or procedure is a personal one between you and your doctor, at any age. These age ranges are suggested by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommendations and may not apply to every person.*

Which brings up the point that I think it's required that we add text to each Age page that says where this information comes from. Something like:

These guidelines are based on recommendations from the [U.S. Preventive Services Task Force](#), the [Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices](#), the [Women's Preventive Services Guidelines](#), the [2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans](#), and the [Physical Activity Guidelines for Americans](#).

I don't think you have to have the hyperlinks if that junks it up too much.

Jill knows that my personal opinion on the "help women understand" language which I feel is very condescending. I would recommend on the About NWHW page and the NWHW Fact Sheet we say instead:

The week also serves as a time to help encourage women to take understand what steps they can take to improve their health.

On the page at <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw/tools/social-media/> I think you need to say the date and time that the Thunderclap will "thunder."

On the same page I don't understand why there is a hard line return in the first tweet that puts "20" on the next line. It looks awkward and seems unnecessary.

On the infographic at http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/files/documents/nwhw_infographc-eat-healthy.pdf not all of the links at the bottom (sources and body text) are clickable.

On the infographic at http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/files/documents/nwhw_infographc-eat-healthy.pdf the link to the NWHW website near the bottom is not clickable.

Thanks!
Brooke

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 4:37 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn; Patricia Nicastrì; Laura Koehler; Darcy Sawatzki; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review

+Brooke, Candace and AP

Thank you, Alli and team.

Brooke and I are reviewing it in full. I also asked Candace to review all the social media-related content and the quiz. AP will review it if she has time.

On a quick look with the quiz: I think [the home page](#) could be improved. We repeat *What's your health style?* Maybe we can get rid of the first mention where it says "Quiz: *What's your health style?*" I don't think there's a need to call out that it's a quiz there, esp. when our disclaimer states that "this quiz...". And maybe we can make the left navigation button catchier:

- *What's your health style quiz*
- *What's your health style?*
- *Find out what's your health style*

Feel free to call me.

Jill

*Also re: your VM about the video: We may want to submit the storyboards, but I'll have more of a sense after talking to Tara. Stay tuned.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 2:26 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn; Patricia Nicastrì; Laura Koehler; Darcy Sawatzki
Subject: NWHW 2017 Website Review

Hi Jill,

I'm excited to share with you the preview links for the NWHW 2017 website:

<http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw>

As you're reviewing, please keep the following in mind:

- **The pink date:** I know we talked about removing this from the header, but we think this information needs to be on every page. If we remove it, the date is pretty buried. It only appears on the About page and the Fact sheet page within the page text, so it's not very visible. We recommend keeping the date on every page, but we should determine when you'd like to pull it down after NWHW.
- **External links:** Not all of the external links currently open in a new tab, but this is actually something we're setting up to happen automatically. They should be behaving properly soon, definitely before the launch.
- **Homepage:** We were unable to rebuild the dropdown "Select your age group" because it used deprecated code that doesn't work on our current server environment. You'll see that we instead used the same age bar that we use on the "Steps for better health" pages. Let us know what you think.
- **Partner and Ambassador page:** We're working on adding icons to the bottom of these pages, but it's taking some extra time because the templates for these pages are unique. This may happen post launch.
- **Partner page:** We're working on the spacing on this page and the size of the logos so that they're smaller. They'll appear [3x3 like last year](#). This change will happen before the launch.
- **Infographics:** Some of the share messages aren't working properly, but we're working on it and will have it corrected before the launch.
- **Quiz:** Similar issue with the share messages, but we're working on it. Also, for the results, we're looking to remove some of the space between the share buttons and the explanation for each result.

We're looking forward to your feedback! Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Alli

ALLISON HALL-JORDAN

Account Supervisor

1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
D 202.706.7439



cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226

Sender:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
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Delivered Date:	2017/03/03 15:18:00

From:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: BV Tweet/Website
Date:	2018/03/27 16:30:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thanks for the quick response to this, Brooke!!

Given our recent publicity, I think we should respond and I was definitely planning to let Jenn review the message before it was posted.

I can see why the text can be misleading. When I checked the CDC website <https://www.cdc.gov/std/bv/stdfact-bacterial-vaginosis.htm>, it says that BV is more common among women who are sexually active, not that it can be caused by sex. What is confirmed is that BV is caused by the imbalance of bacteria which can happen after having sex.

I agree, it would be great if Sheryl and team can find a resource to back that up or we clarify the language.

Thanks again!
Candace

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2018 4:18 PM
To: Sheryl Rhoads
Cc: Emily Dammeyer (EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); TRodgers@palladianpartners.com
Subject: FW: BV Tweet/Website
Importance: High

Hi Sheryl,

There's been [a question on our twitter channel](#) about the [BV fact sheet](#). I think part of the problem is that we use the word "cause" when that's not certain in the scientific arena (that BV can be caused by vaginal, oral, or anal sex). And saying that you can get it from male or female partners makes it equal an STI. I think we should clarify that language on the site.

The site says the page was last updated on March 16, 2018 and I wasn't sure what the update was that was 10 days ago? Can you find out and let us know? Thanks.

Looks like the CDC last reviewed our info in late 2014 and it was approved by OWH in early 2015, so I'm not sure this was updated with the [latest treatment info from 2015](#)? I know we updated the STI fact sheets but I wasn't sure if we updated the BV fact sheet at the same time?

AP and Candace – it's up to you guys if we respond on Twitter or not? You might run it by Jenn given the current scrutiny of any information about women who have sex with women.

Thanks,
Brooke

From: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2018 3:52 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: BV Tweet/Website
Importance: High

Hi Brooke,

I'm monitoring Twitter today and saw this tweet about our bacterial vaginosis webpage.
<https://twitter.com/dranarchista/status/978704861918146560>

Here's what I think she is referring to:

What is bacterial vaginosis (BV)?

Bacterial vaginosis (BV) is an infection in the vagina. BV is caused by changes in the amount of certain types of bacteria in your vagina. BV can develop when your vagina has more harmful bacteria than good bacteria.

How do you get BV?

Researchers are still studying how women get BV. You can get BV without having sex, but BV can also be caused by vaginal, oral, or anal sex. You can get BV from male or female partners.

Are there some sources that the health writers can provide for us to pass along to her in response? What do you think?

Adrienne Phenix, M.S., C.H.E.S.
Public Health Analyst

<< OLE Object: Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) >>

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov

Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-0571

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
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Delivered Date:	2018/03/27 16:30:00

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
CC:	Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>; Mikhaila Richards <MRichards@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Jacqueline French, MD on Epilepsy: Neurologists and Gynecologists Need to Work Together
Date:	2017/12/06 09:51:40
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Yes, totally, I know you've been into the MS fact sheet ☺ I was reminded of it because someone was upset in a ForeSee survey last month about us not including some things in the Autoimmune category on the website so I thought this would be a good place to start.....

From: Sheryl Rhoads [mailto:SRhoads@palladianpartners.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2017 9:47 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Tess Feldhausen; Mikhaila Richards; Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Jacqueline French, MD on Epilepsy: Neurologists and Gynecologists Need to Work Together

Hi Brooke,

Thanks for sending these. You may recall that I've been wanting an MS fact sheet for a long time! I'll look at the prioritization calendar and see where we can fit these in.

Best,
Sheryl

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 06, 2017 9:41 AM
To: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>; Mikhaila Richards <MRichards@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: FW: Jacqueline French, MD on Epilepsy: Neurologists and Gynecologists Need to Work Together

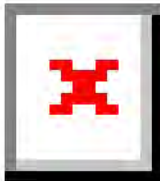
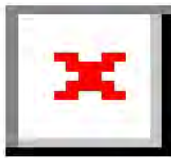
I'd like to add epilepsy and MS to the list of new fact sheets for the upcoming year. The interview below with the expert is a great source to start from re epilepsy and the associated issues for women of reproductive age. Since there are unique issues in epilepsy in women I think it's important to address this. And then of course since MS is more common in women I think we should have information about that. Thanks.

From: awh@memberclicks-mail.net [<mailto:awh@memberclicks-mail.net>]

Sent: Tuesday, December 05, 2017 12:40 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

Subject: Jacqueline French, MD on Epilepsy: Neurologists and Gynecologists Need to Work Together



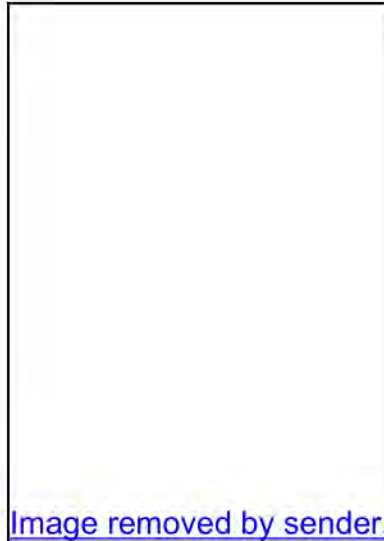
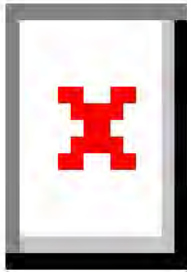
We invite you to read the latest MP Post from the Academy of Women's Health-an interview with Jacqueline French, MD, on "Epilepsy: Neurologists and Gynecologists Need to Work Together."

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sender.

[Click here to read the interview](#)

[Click here to read additional MP Post interviews](#)

[Click here to visit our website and read about the benefits of membership](#)



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Susan G. Kornstein, MD
President, Academy of Women's Health
Editor-in-Chief, *Journal of Women's Health*

[Image removed by sender.](#)

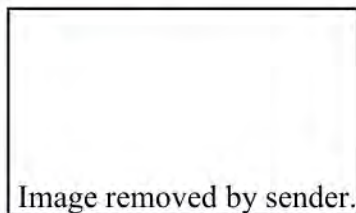
This email was sent to brooke.leggin@hhs.gov by AWH@academyofwomenshealth.org

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United States

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Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>

Recipient:	Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Tess Feldhausen <TFeldhausen@palladianpartners.com>; Mikhaila Richards <MRichards@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/12/06 09:51:39
Delivered Date:	2017/12/06 09:51:40

From:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	2016 Sexual assault messages?
Date:	2017/09/01 11:18:30
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

From: Allyson Harkey [<mailto:AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>]

Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2016 6:28 PM

To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)

Cc: Darcy Sawatzki

Subject: RE: Sexual assault messages?

I might have gone a little overboard :) Feel free to pick and choose the ones you like, or we can use them all over the course of the next few days, including the weekend. They can all be used on Facebook and/or Twitter, for WH and GH channels, and they'd all link to the Sexual assault fact sheet. 90% of the language is straight from the fact sheet; I'm also happy to edit as you see fit.

- Sexual assault is any type of forced or coerced sexual contact or behavior that happens without consent.
- Sexual assault can have serious long-term health effects, incl headaches, pain, severe anxiety, depression, and self-injury or suicide.
- Sexual contact w/ someone who does not consent, including fondling or unwanted touching above or under clothes = sexual assault.
- Sexual assault is not only rape. It also includes sexual coercion, harassment, threats, and unwanted touching, among other behaviors.
- Not all sexual assault involves a physical attack. Sexual assault can be verbal, as in sexual harassment or threats.
- Sexual coercion — a type of sexual assault — is when someone pressures, tricks, or forces you in a nonphysical way into sexual activity.
- Consent is an ongoing process, not a one-time question. If you consent to sexual activity, you can change your mind, at any time.
- Past consent does not mean future consent. Giving consent in the past does not mean you have to give consent now or in the future.
- Just because someone doesn't say "no" it doesn't mean she is saying "yes." Silence is not consent.
- Just because someone said "yes" before does not mean she is saying "yes" now. Consent must be part of every sexual activity, every time.
- Not fighting back does not mean "yes." Not putting up a physical fight does not mean that there is consent.

Thanks,
Allyson

-----Original Message-----

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) [<mailto:Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 11:56 AM
To: Allyson Harkey <AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Cc: Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Sexual assault messages?

Sorry. I forgot to add that it's okay to send some messages on our channels this week.

-----Original Message-----

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2016 9:31 AM
To: 'Allyson Harkey'; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Darcy Sawatzki
Subject: RE: Sexual assault messages?

Hi Allyson,

Thanks for being watchful and checking in about this. I don't have a blackberry and don't usually check my e-mail on the weekends.

-----Original Message-----

From: Allyson Harkey [<mailto:AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>]
Sent: Saturday, October 08, 2016 12:44 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Darcy Sawatzki
Subject: Sexual assault messages?

In light of the Trump video, would you like us to put together some social media messages for today/tomorrow around sexual assault and coercion? Obviously we wouldn't mention Trump or the election in any way, and I can pull language directly from the website. I'm thinking straight definitions and the sexual assault hotline phone number. Just let me know!

Thanks,
Allyson

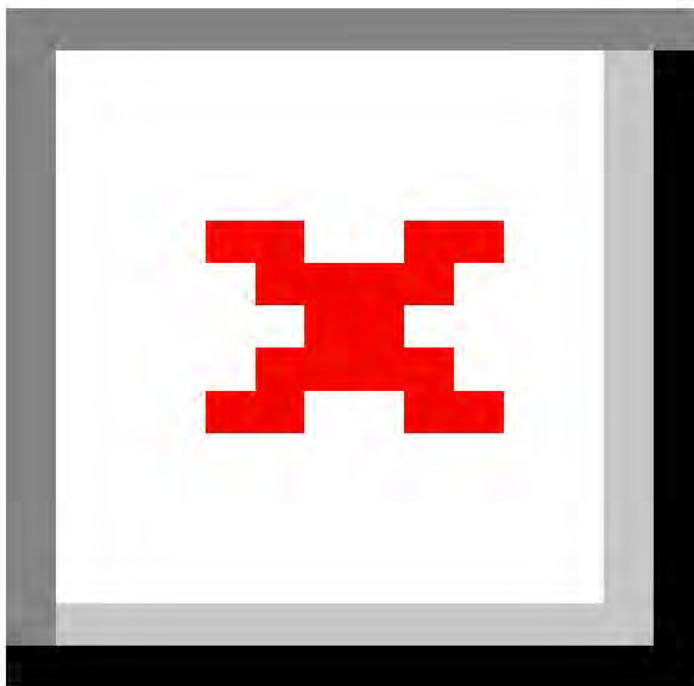
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Recipient:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/09/01 11:18:29
Delivered Date:	2017/09/01 11:18:30

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: NWGHAAD item to be removed
Date:	2017/08/01 08:07:28
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Gotcha. Thanks.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, August 01, 2017 8:06 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: NWGHAAD item to be removed

I just searched "NWGHAAD" on Womenshealth.gov
 The PDF is the 2nd item.



From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Tuesday, August 01, 2017 8:03 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: NWGHAAD item to be removed

Totes, but how did you find that page? At <https://www.womenshealth.gov/nwghaad/resources/fact-sheet> I cannot find a link to the PDF anywhere.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, August 01, 2017 7:55 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: NWGHAAD item to be removed

Hey Brooke,

I just noticed that we have another NWGHAAD item with the old logo on the website.
<https://www.womenshealth.gov/files/documents/nwghaad-2017-fact-sheet.pdf>

Can Palladian remove this PDF from the site?

Candace Marshall, MPH
Health Communications Specialist



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201
Email: Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov
Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-690-5414
Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
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Sent Date:	2017/08/01 08:07:27
Delivered Date:	2017/08/01 08:07:28

From:	Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
CC:	Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Akudo Nwankpa <ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Subject:	RE: For Review: Menopause and Menstrual Cycle
Date:	2017/10/16 15:56:02
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

That content is not quite ready to go. We're still getting it teed up and through proofing, but we'll keep it in mind for the PDFs.

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 2:37 PM
To: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Akudo Nwankpa <ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: RE: For Review: Menopause and Menstrual Cycle

...also, if all we're waiting for is the PDFs on Relationships and Safety then we should go ahead and launch that content also.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 1:55 PM
To: 'Emily Dammeyer'; Sheryl Rhoads
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Akudo Nwankpa; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Chuck Sebian-Lander
Subject: RE: For Review: Menopause and Menstrual Cycle

Let's launch without the fact sheets 😊

From: Emily Dammeyer [<mailto:EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 1:52 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Sheryl Rhoads
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Akudo Nwankpa; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Chuck Sebian-Lander
Subject: RE: For Review: Menopause and Menstrual Cycle

Hi Brooke,

We can launch this soon, but we don't have the fact sheets updated. If you're ok with launching it without the updated fact sheets, we could get it live tomorrow, and then add the updated fact sheets when they are ready. Let us know if you would like to launch soon and get the fact sheets up later, or wait until we have everything.

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 8:30 AM
To: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Akudo Nwankpa <ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: For Review: Menopause and Menstrual Cycle

Also, is there any way we could launch this soon, or is it behind VAW? Because the Post linked to our Menopause section this weekend: https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/im-getting-horrible-hot-flashes-what-can-i-safely-do-about-them/2017/10/12/a32ab744-a39a-11e7-b14f-f41773cd5a14_story.html. I guess the rush is over since that article will soon be at the bottom of the page....

From: Sheryl Rhoads [<mailto:SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 8:27 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Emily Dammeyer
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Akudo Nwankpa; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: For Review: Menopause and Menstrual Cycle

Thanks, Brooke!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2017 7:30 AM
To: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Akudo Nwankpa

<ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: For Review: Menopause and Menstrual Cycle

This looks great. Thank you!

From: Sheryl Rhoads [<mailto:SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 4:45 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Emily Dammeyer
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Akudo Nwankpa; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: For Review: Menopause and Menstrual Cycle

Hi Brooke,

For your review, here is the proposed change for the Asthma bullets to match Alan's changes in the fact sheet (the content was the same for both):

<http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/menstrual-cycle/your-menstrual-cycle>
<http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/menstrual-cycle/your-menstrual-cycle-and-your-health>

Current content: Asthma. Asthma symptoms can change throughout your cycle. More hospitalizations for asthma happen for women in the days just before their menstrual period starts.

Proposed change: Asthma. Your asthma symptoms may be worse during some parts of your cycle. [citation: Zein, J.G., Erzurum, S.C. (2015). [Asthma is Different in Women](#). *Current Allergy and Asthma Reports*; 15(6): 28.]

Thanks,
Sheryl

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2017 3:29 PM
To: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Akudo Nwankpa <ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: For Review: Menopause and Menstrual Cycle

In addition to whatever changes Sheryl gives due to the review of the Asthma fact sheet, here are some final changes and mistakes to be fixed before launch. Thanks.

On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/menstrual-cycle/your-menstrual-cycle> on the 6th slide in the carousel I'm not sure we should use the abbreviation "PMS" in the text because we're not saying "premenstrual syndrome", we're just saying "premenstrual". Can you take off the "(PMS)" from that slide?

On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/menstrual-cycle/premenstrual-syndrome> under How does PMS affect other health problems section we need to revise it to include the full name of CFS. So it should say:

- **Myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS)**. Some women report that their symptoms often get worse right before their period. Research shows that women with ME/CFS may also be more likely to have heavy menstrual bleeding and early or premature menopause

On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/menstrual-cycle/period-problems> under the Heavy bleeding section in the paragraph that follows the bullets we need to revise it to include the full name of CFS. So it should say:

- Some research has found that women with myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS) have a higher risk for heavy bleeding.¹⁵ Women with ME/CFS may experience a range of symptoms that can include fatigue (tiredness or exhaustion that does not get better with rest and sleep), muscle and joint pain, and memory problems.

On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/menopause-0/menopause-treatment>, under the first question, it seems like the “Menopausal hormone therapy” part of the second bullet should be bolded.

On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/menopause-0/early-or-premature-menopause> in the first question in the second paragraph there is an extra space between the second and third sentences.

On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/menopause-0/early-or-premature-menopause> under the second question in the last bullet we need to revise it to include the full name of CFS. So it should say:

- **Chronic fatigue syndrome**. Women with myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS) have extreme tiredness, weakness, muscle and joint pain, memory loss, headache, unrefreshing sleep, and other symptoms. Research has found that women with ME/CFS are more likely to have early or premature menopause.

On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/menopause-0/menopause-and-your-health> in the first question on the Lead poisoning bullet let’s change the citation. So the Source number “3” should now be: Jackson, L. W., Cromer, B. A., & Panneerselvamm, A. (2010). Association between bone turnover, micronutrient intake, and blood lead levels in pre-and postmenopausal women, NHANES 1999–2002. *Environmental Health Perspectives*, 118(11), 1590–1596. The reason I’m changing this is because the current source #3 is dated 2015 but when I clicked on that PDF the date of it was 2007.

On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/menopause-0/menopause-and-your-health> in the first question under the Urinary Incontinence bullet the footnote number “4” is not in superscript font and is not hyperlinked to the source.

On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/menopause-0/menopause-and-your-health> in the third question the bolding of the second sentence should include the initial letter “T.” On second

thought, let's revise that second sentence to say "Most women can help take care of their health with:". On that same page/question the spacing of the bullets is varied when it should be the same.

On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/menopause-0/menopause-and-your-health> in the fourth question in the bullet about smoking let's add another reference to the citation "5" that is there. So this would be "6" and then the citation is: Henley, S.J., Thomas, C.C., Sharapova, S.R., Momin, B., Massetti, G.M., Winn, D.M.,...Richardson, L.C. (2016). Vital Signs: Disparities in Tobacco-Related Cancer Incidence and Mortality — United States, 2004–2013. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)*, 65, 1212–1218.

On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/menopause-0/menopause-and-your-health> in the last question in the last paragraph let's add one more sentence to the very end: Eating healthy and getting at least 30 minutes of exercise on most days is the best way to keep a healthy weight.

On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/menopause-0/menopause-resources> in the second section the correct hyperlink for the Administration on Aging is <https://www.acl.gov/about-acl/administration-aging>, not that aging section on the hhs.gov website that is currently listed.

On the Menopause PDF fact sheet I'd like the title to be parallel to the Menstrual Cycle one, so can you just call it "Top Questions about Menopause"?

From: Emily Dammeyer [<mailto:EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 12:10 PM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Sheryl Rhoads; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Akudo Nwankpa
Subject: For Review: Menopause and Menstrual Cycle

Hi Brooke and Ann,

Below for your review are two links to the updated Menopause and Menstrual cycle content on the staging site. One note: the "Top questions" on the Menopause landing page are currently broken because they are pointing to the places where those links will live when the URL is changed from */menopause-0* to */menopause*.

<http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/menopause-0>
<http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/menstrual-cycle>

Let us know if you have any questions or feedback.

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Senior Digital Project Director

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 407
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2851

(b)(6)

e: edammeyer@palladianpartners.com

w: PalladianPartners.com



cid:image003.jpg@01D14EE6.27BB5C90

Sender:	Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Akudo Nwankpa <ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Sent Date:	2017/10/16 15:54:57
Delivered Date:	2017/10/16 15:56:02

From:	Christensen, Heidi (HHS/CFBNP) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B284B9000AA44FF19DB93AA87267556A-CHRISTENSEN>
To:	OS Partnerships (HHS/OS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=176a36162ee94820bd4dc800a467b880-OS Partners>
Subject:	This WEEK: HHS Community Health News March 12- 16
Date:	2018/03/12 11:06:19
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Friends, Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or with a request for additional information on any of the news items, program listings, or resources below.

New Reports on the Opioid Epidemic's Impact on ER Visits and the Child Welfare System

[Opioid Overdoses Treated in Emergency Departments](#)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a *Vital Signs* report showing that emergency department visits for suspected opioid overdoses increased 30 percent in all parts of the U.S. from July 2016 through September 2017. In addition to highlighting that opioid overdoses increased for men and women, across all age groups, and in all regions, the report helps us see how communities, law enforcement, the medical community, public health and government can work together in this fight. Click [here](#) for the full *Vital Signs* report, news release, fact sheet, and other public engagement material – including a data-rich, one-minute video.

[WEBINAR Coordinating Clinical and Public Health Responses to Opioid Overdoses Treated in Emergency Departments](#)

Tues., March 13, from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. ET

Join the 20th U.S. Surgeon General, Acting CDC Director, CDC officials and other subject-matter experts for a webinar to discuss the latest data, indicating that rates of overdoses treated in emergency departments are rising across all regions and require a coordinated response between public health, clinicians, public safety, and community organizations. Learn more [here](#).

Follow CDC through Twitter [@CDCgov](#) and on [Facebook](#), to spread the news and help fight our opioid epidemic!

[The Relationship between Substance Use Prevalence and Child Welfare Caseloads](#)

The Assistant Secretary of Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) has just released the following [two briefs](#) considering the relationship between the opioid epidemic

and increased child welfare caseloads. After more than a decade of sustained declines in the national foster care caseload, beginning in 2012, the number of children entering foster care began to rise. While many believe parental substance use – including prescription drugs, illicit drugs and alcohol, and especially opioids – has been the primary cause of the increase in foster care placements, thus far there has been little empirical evidence to support this assertion.

A series of research briefs will describe the study's findings. Links to individual briefs appear below. Additional briefs will be added as they become available throughout 2018.

- [Substance use, the Opioid Epidemic and the Child Welfare System: Key Takeaways from a Mixed Methods Study](#)
- [The Relationship between Substance Use Prevalence and Child Welfare Caseloads](#)

Upcoming Webinar on Building Community Capacity

NEW! [Opioid Epidemic: Strengthening Your Community's Capacity to Connect to Vital Services and Support](#)

Wed. March 28, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m ET

Register [here](#).

Faith and community leaders are seizing the opportunity to strengthen their response to the current opioid epidemic. With the help of local experts, they are learning how to respond to an emergency, provide on-going recovery support, and even make referrals to treatment.

Join the HHS Partnership Center, **Monty Burks**, State Director of Special Projects and Faith-based Initiative for the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, and **Kevin Hoffman**, President and Program Director of Three Oaks Center in Dayton, Ohio, to learn how faith and community-based leaders are joining their compassion with a proven expertise that's bringing hope and healing to their communities.

Please help us promote this learning opportunity by sharing our "pinned" post on your social media channels: <https://twitter.com/PartnersforGood>

HHS Community Health News and Resources

[Value-based Transformation of America's Healthcare System](#)

On March 8, HHS Secretary Azar provided remarks to America's Health Insurance Plans members on the challenge and opportunities of transforming our healthcare system from paying for procedures and sickness to one of value and outcomes.

[Consumer Advisory: Older Adults and Medication Safety](#)

Older Adults and Medication Safety is part of the Eldercare Locator's Critical Conversations series of fact sheets, which address emerging topics and important issues impacting the health and well-being of older adults. It is a new fact sheet for the [Eldercare Locator website](#) on medication safety and older adults with a special section on opioids. This project was supported, in part, by from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services.

[How Do Drugs Change Your Brain? Test Your Knowledge](#)

Share this quiz with your teens from the National Institute on Drug Abuse for Teens. Did you know drugs can change how well your brain works? Take the quiz to learn more: <http://bit.ly/2CZrf5m>

Grant Information

[Fiscal Year 2018 Title X Services Funding Opportunity Announcement](#)

The new funding opportunity announcement (FOA) for the [Title X family planning program](#) was released on February 23rd. These grants will assist in the establishment and operation of voluntary family planning projects that will offer a broad range of acceptable and effective family planning methods and services including natural family planning methods, infertility services, and services for adolescents. This funding announcement ([PA-FPH-18-001](#)) is for all 60 geographic service areas.

Applications for the Title X family planning services grants are due May 24, 2018 at 6 p.m. ET. The grants are expected to begin in September of this year.

You can read the full [funding opportunity](#) announcement (PDF) and the FOA [Q&A](#) document [here](#).

WEBINAR: Thurs., March 22, 2018, 2 p.m. ET [technical assistance webinar](#) for the FOA will be on.

Participants can also join the event directly at:

<https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PWXW7109625&p=7340934&t=c>

With great thanks for all you do in communities across the country, Heidi and the team at the Partnership Center

Heidi Christensen, Public Affairs Specialist
Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships/IEA/OS
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Ave. SW, Washington D.C. 20201

(202) 260- 3595, @PartnersforGood

Sender:	Christensen, Heidi (HHS/CFBNP) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B284B9000AA44FF19DB93AA87267556A-CHRISTENSEN>
Recipient:	OS Partnerships (HHS/OS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=176a36162ee94820bd4dc800a467b880-OS Partners>
Sent Date:	2018/03/12 11:06:05
Delivered Date:	2018/03/12 11:06:19

From:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
To:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>
Subject:	RE: I'll be online until 4
Date:	2017/04/20 15:03:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

We'll have to. We can really extend our reach with a video series.

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 3:02 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: I'll be online until 4

Absolutely. And maybe we can gather some info and sell her on the need during the next contract...

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 3:00 PM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: I'll be online until 4

Me too. I told Jenn that we need to meet people where they are and they watching videos. We could have made some videos to promote the website on a separate project.

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 2:54 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: I'll be online until 4

That makes me sad, and to not want to do the series anymore ... I'm sorry. I mean, it's fine to have some commercials for our information, but I was excited about having video fact sheets.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 2:52 PM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: I'll be online until 4

Okay.

You will read my e-mail to HS sometime today or tomorrow but Jenn changed the fact sheet to video concept. She wants short videos to introduce the fact sheet and send people to the actual factsheet/website for more info. ☺We haven't met with Patty and the rest of the team yet but we'll probably do that next week.

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 2:49 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: I'll be online until 4

Poke me if there's anything you need my attention directed to as I clean up a week's worth of email. Being out a week more than doubled my unread messages by the way ...

R. Ann Abercrombie

Program Manager

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 730F.2, Washington, DC 20201



OWH_logo_150

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Main: 202-690-7650 | **Direct:** 202-401-9588
Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
Recipient:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>
Sent Date:	2017/04/20 15:03:19
Delivered Date:	2017/04/20 15:03:00

From:	Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com) <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Highest priority (quick) website update please
Date:	2017/05/03 13:12:28
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Correct—it's been removed throughout.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 3, 2017 1:09 PM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com) <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Highest priority (quick) website update please

Thanks! It's off all of the About Us pages? Because it's not cleared.

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com]
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 1:06 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Highest priority (quick) website update please

Hi Brooke—that's been corrected.

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 3, 2017 12:40 PM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com) <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Highest priority (quick) website update please
Importance: High

But somehow the About Us fact sheet got reposted – can you take that off? It's not supposed to be public because it's not cleared.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 12:10 PM
To: 'Chuck Sebian-Lander'
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Highest priority (quick) website update please

You guys are the best. Thank you so much.

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 11:57 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Highest priority (quick) website update please

Hi Brooke,

This is updated: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/about-us/who-we-are/leadership>

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

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Silver Spring, MD 20910

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w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, May 3, 2017 11:25 AM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com) <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: Highest priority (quick) website update please
Importance: High

On <https://www.womenshealth.gov/about-us/who-we-are/leadership>, in the line immediately under Nicole Greene's name, can you please add "Acting Director" so that "Acting Director" and "Deputy Director" each have their own line? Thanks.

FYI – we were initially told not to list her status as Acting Director but there has been a change.

If this could be done today, ASAP, that would be appreciated. Thanks.

Brooke

Brooke Leggin
Web and Community Manager



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: brooke.leggin@hhs.gov

Work Hours: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm ET

Main: 202-690-7650 | **Direct:** M, Th, F 202-205-2373 T, W 301-864-2607

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Chuck Sebian-Lander < CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com >
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>;

	Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com) <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/05/03 13:10:15
Delivered Date:	2017/05/03 13:12:28

From:	Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
To:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer
Date:	2017/10/26 09:17:26
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

And to update you on the subpage issue: We've identified the cause of the issue, are testing a fix on our development environment, and are hoping to have the fix live before the end of the day today.

From: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) [mailto:Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov]
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2017 8:55 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Brooke has been dancing all around in excitement.

Thank you ☺

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2017 8:55 AM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. This is amazing and it's just wonderful. Thanks for keeping us updated on the subpage issue!

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2017 8:17 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Hi Brooke and Ann,

The Mega Menu and Fat Footer have launched successfully, as well as the updates mentioned in my last email.

During our post-launch testing, we ran into an issue regarding the functionality of the Mega Menu on mobile devices, involving links occasionally not working in the Top Menu if you're on a sub-page. It's highest-priority for our developers this morning; we'll keep you updated on the status of a fix as we progress.

We also noticed a spike in crawler and bot traffic simultaneous to the launch of the Mega Menu, causing some significant slowdown on the website. It looks like the changes may have triggered a notification to HHS, because we believe there are crawlers coming from HHS. Ann, we wanted to give you a heads up in case you get any alerts through cybersecurity. We've been in touch with Acquia and are actively monitoring the situation. If there are any lingering concerns, we'll let you know.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2017 10:15 AM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Sounds amazing! Thank you very much!

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2017 10:04 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)

Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Hi Brooke,

We're on track to launch the Mega Menu and Fat Footer first thing tomorrow morning. As a result of the process we'll use to launch such a significant change to the entire website, some other items currently holding on our preview server will go live simultaneously, including the new 30 Achievements section, several fixes to our earlier deployment issues, and remediation of 508 issues flagged in September.

Also going live will be some modifications to the Printables and Shareables section, which I wanted to bring to your specific attention to ensure we shouldn't take additional measures to revert or change the section:

- Updating the fact sheets section to include both English and Spanish links to each fact sheet: <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/printables-and-shareables/resource/fact-sheets>
- The re-launch of the infocards section, using a selection of the newly 508-compliant infocards from Pinterest: <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/printables-and-shareables/resource/infocards>

Let me know if there are any further considerations we should keep in mind or adjustments we should make ahead of the launch.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

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Silver Spring, MD 20910

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w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Friday, October 20, 2017 1:56 PM

To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Sounds amazing. Thank you.

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2017 1:48 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Hi Brooke,

All of the immediate changes you noted have been made. Let us know if there's anything else; otherwise, we'll prepare to launch the Mega Menu early next week.

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

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cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2017 10:50 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Thanks, Brooke. We'll work on making the immediate tweaks now; I'll let you know when they've been implemented.

We can definitely discuss a more robust look and feel for the social media page. That NWGHAAD page uses a modified version of our pre-existing two-column template; we could try something similar.

Adding the "1-" should be easy, though we'll want to test to ensure that adding the extra length to that line doesn't break formatting on any browsers or mobile devices. We'll add a task to our development queue to get it done.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

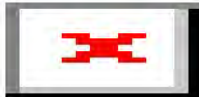
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e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2017 10:31 AM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Thanks Chuck, this is very exciting. There are just a few tweaks to make before launch. And then Candace and I had some asks for the future around improving the look-and-feel of the social media page.

For the immediate:

- The Top level navigation looks great. Thank you so much.
- The new pages (call center and social media) look great. Thank you so much.
- In the fat footer Programs and Activities list why is Health Information Gateway at the bottom of the list and not in alpha order like the rest?
- Chronic fatigue needs to be removed from the Popular topics on the fat footer – Chronic fatigue should never appear in any popular topic list anywhere, ever.
- In the fat footer Get help list, the only link that does not open in a new tab/window is the Get help with family planning link. Can you make that one like the rest?

To please put into the design queue, is there a different template we could use in the future for the social media page? We'd like to incorporate some images and the designed social media icons (like the ones in the About Us PowerPoint template) in the appropriate places. Ideally we'd have at least 3 images on the page – a woman, a teen, and a health professional all using a laptop or mobile device – so we can speak to all of our target audiences. A banner or combined image is fine too. I'm not sure if it's a template or its own type of page, but we like the layout of the Resources page in NWGHAAD at <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwghaad/resources>. We can talk more at a Content Strategy meeting in the future if that's helpful.

Also for the future, not now, would it be possible to put the "1" on the 1-800 number in the header? I'd like it to be consistent with our new call center page.

Thank you!
Brooke

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2017 9:16 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Hi Brooke,

The edits you've requested have been made on our staging environment and should be ready for a final look and approval: <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/>

For specific reference, here are links to the two new pages added to the footer:

- <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/about-us/what-we-do/programs-and-activities/social-media>
- <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/about-us/what-we-do/programs-and-activities/helpline>

Once we have approval to launch, we'll work on getting you a concrete timeframe for when to expect the Mega Menu to go live. It should be a relatively quick turnaround.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

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w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 3:45 PM
To: 'Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)' <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Hi Brooke—all of this should be doable, hopefully to be ready for a final review and sign-off by COB tomorrow. I'll keep you posted.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 3:20 PM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Sorry – I forgot – Jenn wants to call the Call Center the “National Women’s Health and Breastfeeding Helpline” rather than the way I have it titled below.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 3:19 PM
To: 'Chuck Sebian-Lander'
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) (Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

I got Jenn’s approval on the final Mega-Menu and Fat Footer with some final tweaks. Please let me know what you think the timeline is for all of this so I can let her know 😊

- Please permanently remove Chronic Fatigue Syndrome from the Popular topics on both the Mega-Menu and the Fat Footer. If this isn’t possible please let me know. Another option would be to rename that fact sheet Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS) which is what I was trying to avoid.
- In the Fat Footer – Please add [Health Information Gateway](#) to the Programs and Activities list.
- In the Fat Footer – I realize that the family planning health center finder tool is technically a “.com” property, but it’s really a .gov – can you take the external website icon off?

- In the Fat Footer – Does the header “Stay connected” have to be hyperlinked? Can it just be text that doesn’t go anywhere, even on the desktop view?
- In the Fat Footer – can the link for “Media inquiries” go directly to <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/contact-us/email/> since we have a subject line already for Press and media inquiries?

Below is the new page text for the Call Center page and the Social Media page. We can make edits if this text is not suitable. Please let me know.

The Call Center page and the Social Media page should live somewhere under Programs and Activities, but they do not have to be in the left-nav for that section.

The Call Center page should be the destination for the “Get breastfeeding help” link in the Fat Footer.

The Social Media page should be the destination for the “Social media” link under Stay Connected in the Fat Footer.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Page Title: Connect with us on Social Media

Body Text:

Get the most up to date women’s and girls’ health information on any device by following us on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, and YouTube.

Join the conversation on Facebook at www.facebook.com/hhsowh. Catch up with our women’s health information, videos, and blog posts.

Check out recent women’s health information on Twitter at www.twitter.com/womenshealth or at www.twitter.com/saluddlamujer for information in Spanish.

Girls can get for fun tips, quizzes, and girl’s health information on Twitter at www.twitter.com/girlshealth. Parents and teachers might be interested too!

For your favorite healthy inspirational tips and images for women and girls, follow us and save our pins on Pinterest at www.pinterest.com/womenshealth.

Subscribe to our YouTube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/user/WomensHealthgov> to watch our videos containing expert interviews and personal stories on breastfeeding, HIV/AIDS, women veteran’s health, healthy living and much more!

Page Title: Women’s Health and National Breastfeeding Helpline

Body Text:

Do you have a women’s health question or trouble with breastfeeding? Call us anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. ET from Monday through Friday at 1-800-994-9662 to talk with a health information specialist in English or Spanish.

Our women’s health information specialists who answer the phone are also trained as breastfeeding peer counselors. You can call us for free, as many times as you need to!

Here are some questions we often hear:

- Why is my period irregular?
- What can I do about cramps?
- How can I increase my breastmilk supply?
- How do I know my baby is getting enough to eat during breastfeeding?

- How do I know if I am starting menopause?
- I have a health problem and don't know if I should call my doctor.

Call us today at 1-800-994-9662 to get answers to your questions or for breastfeeding support.

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 04, 2017 9:13 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com)
Subject: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Hi Brooke,

We've updated the Mega Menu and Fat Footer to address some specific issues and feedback. Notably:

- The Fat Footer is now using the dark purple background.
- The Printables & Shareables and About Us sections now include links to take a user to the landing pages for those specific sections.
- Plus and minus symbols now appear correctly as you expand/collapse content on mobile.

You can see the updated version of the Mega Menu and Fat Footer from this preview link to the homepage: <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/>

If you have any further questions or concerns, let me know.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

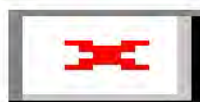
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e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

Sender:	Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Recipient:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>;

	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/10/26 09:16:34
Delivered Date:	2017/10/26 09:17:26

From:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
To:	Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=66bf54ed301743d0b71473b5b9f57502-Greene, Nic>
Subject:	RE: Clearance of OWH videos on PCOS and Breastfeeding
Date:	2018/04/10 13:14:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

You don't suck. We've all got full plates...and take-out containers. LOL

From: Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 11:07 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: Re: Clearance of OWH videos on PCOS and Breastfeeding

Thank you and I am sorry I suck!

On: 10 April 2018 11:02,
"Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>wrote:

No problem. I'll work with Syreeta to find a time. ☺

From: Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 11:02 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: Re: Clearance of OWH videos on PCOS and Breastfeeding

Yes please!

On: 09 April 2018 16:47,
"Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)" <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>wrote:

I'm baa-aacccckkk! ☺

Would you like to schedule some time to look at them together? That way, I can answer any questions or jot down any feedback.

From: Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2018 2:41 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Clearance of OWH videos on PCOS and Breastfeeding

Yes ma'am.

Nicole Greene
Acting Director
Deputy Director



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: Nicole.Greene@hhs.gov
Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-2614
Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2018 2:23 PM
To: Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH) <Nicole.Greene@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Clearance of OWH videos on PCOS and Breastfeeding

Hi Nicole,

I hope that you are having a good day.
I'm checking back in on the videos. They slipped my radar as well. Are you able to review and approve the videos by Monday COB? Is that enough time?
After you review them, can you send an e-mail indicating that you approve the videos? When we submit the videos for SCP clearance, we need to attach your approval email.

Thanks!
Candace

PCOS video:

The PCOS video is a short animated clip to explain PCOS and the symptoms. It will be used on social media to direct viewers to the OWH website and the fact sheet for more information on PCOS.

Link to Video: <https://vimeo.com/241719837/a59ee2d451>

Breastfeeding videos:

We have developed three videos to educate health professionals on the role that they can play in supporting moms who choose to breastfeed and OWH resources that can be used to support

breastfeeding moms. The interviews feature three perspectives about breastfeeding and will be promoted on social media during National Breastfeeding Month in August.

Perspective 1: Health Provider – Dr. Michal Young tells her experiences working with new moms as a provider and how she provides support to mothers in the hospital and after returning home.

Link to video: <https://youtu.be/rykvMGL0D6U>

Perspective 2: New Mom- Maria Frausto talks about her choice to breastfeed and how her provider helped prepare her for the experience. She also talks about factors that can help make breastfeeding more successful after returning home such as family support.

Link to video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lv6-ZifOgKs>

Perspective 3: Hospital Support-Baby-Friendly USA representative Trish MacEnroe talks about what the term “baby-friendly” means and how the organization helps hospitals create a model breastfeeding program and obtain “baby-friendly” status. She also talks about the support and training that the clinical staff can receive at baby-friendly hospitals to help new moms who choose to breastfeed.

Link to video: <http://youtube.com/watch?v=AnEv6b9fT5A>

From: Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH)

Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 9:43 AM

To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)

Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)

Subject: RE: Clearance of OWH videos on PCOS and Breastfeeding

Yes. Glad you reminded me! they slipped off my radar! I will put them on my calendar!!

Nicole Greene

Acting Director

Deputy Director



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health

Office of the Secretary

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Nicole.Greene@hhs.gov

Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-2614

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)

Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 9:13 AM

To: Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Clearance of OWH videos on PCOS and Breastfeeding

Hi Nicole,

Can you review the videos by Tuesday, February 20?

Candace Marshall, MPH

Health Communications Specialist/ Social Media Lead



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200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201
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From: Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2018 3:00 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Clearance of OWH videos on PCOS and Breastfeeding

Hi Candace,

When do you need this by?

Nicole Greene

Acting Director
Deputy Director



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Office on Women's Health
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
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From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2018 2:54 PM
To: Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Subject: Clearance of OWH videos on PCOS and Breastfeeding

Hi Nicole,

Last year, we developed the 4 videos below to share on social media around PCOS and Breastfeeding. As a part of the process of clearing videos through SCP, we now need to attach an e-mail from you approving and signing off on the videos. These videos below aren't new but because these videos sat in SCP clearance for months under ASPA review, we've been asked to go back and attach an approval e-mail from you. Can you please provide written approval for the videos? I've provided a short description of the videos and the links if you would like to review them again:

PCOS video:

The PCOS video is a short animated clip to explain PCOS and the symptoms. It will be used on social media to direct viewers to the OWH website and the fact sheet for more information on PCOS.

Link to Video: <https://vimeo.com/241719837/a59ee2d451>

Breastfeeding videos:

We have developed three videos to educate health professionals on the role that they can play in supporting moms who choose to breastfeed and OWH resources that can be used to support breastfeeding moms. The interviews feature three perspectives about breastfeeding and will be promoted on social media during National Breastfeeding Month in August.

Perspective 1: Health Provider – Dr. Michal Young tells her experiences working with new moms as a provider and how she provides support to mothers in the hospital and after returning home.

Link to video: <https://youtu.be/rykvMGL0D6U>

Perspective 2: New Mom- Maria Frausto talks about her choice to breastfeed and how her provider helped prepare her for the experience. She also talks about factors that can help make breastfeeding more successful after returning home such as family support.

Link to video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lv6-ZifOgKs>

Perspective 3: Hospital Support-Baby-Friendly USA representative Trish MacEnroe talks about what the term "baby-friendly" means and how the organization helps hospitals create a model breastfeeding program and obtain "baby-friendly" status. She also talks about the support and training that the clinical staff can receive at baby-friendly hospitals to help new moms who choose to breastfeed.

Link to video: <http://youtube.com/watch?v=AnEv6b9fT5A>

Thanks,
Candace

Candace Marshall, MPH
Health Communications Specialist



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Sender:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
Recipient:	Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=66bf54ed301743d0b71473b5b9f57502-Greene, Nic>
Sent Date:	2018/04/10 13:14:58
Delivered Date:	2018/04/10 13:14:00

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To:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
Subject:	RE: NWHW Graphics
Date:	2017/03/22 09:43:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Fingers crossed!! ☺

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 9:43 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: NWHW Graphics

It's in clearance, and Tara is reviewing today. Fingers crossed. I will let everyone know when we are about to go live.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 9:42 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: RE: NWHW Graphics

Got it! I was mainly referring to the website and when the pages would be actively promoted.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 9:40 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: NWHW Graphics

When you say all NWHW materials to go live, what materials are you referring to?

- (1) Website—hope it goes live early April. With that, the quiz, infographics, Thunderclap, NWHW fact sheet...all go live.
- (2) We don't share our infocards on our website.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 9:38 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: RE: NWHW Graphics

Thanks!

I like the idea of having the NWHW logo so I'll ask Patty to add it and see how they look.

One question:

Best case scenario: What is your tentative date for all of NWHW materials to go live?

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 9:24 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: NWHW Graphics

GM CM!

I'm good using all of these. As you know, we'll need to add the HHS logo to the healthy girls ones and it would be great to add the NWHW logo to them all as well. But you need to make that call b/c they won't be evergreen then.

And the social media message would need to say something to the effect that women are worth it—making our health a priority is worth it. But I know you go that ;) ;)

Thanks, Candace.

Jill

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, March 21, 2017 5:28 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: NWHW Graphics

Jill,

Passing along the 2 graphics that we used for International Women's Day, in case you'd like to also use them for NWHW.

We had already posted one without the HHS logo before we found out that we needed to add it so only 1 has the logo.

It seems like there is space to add the NWHW logo.

Let me know if you want to use them and I can them to the rotation to get updated with logos.

Candace

Candace Marshall, MPH
Health Communications Specialist



OWH_logo_150

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 OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
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Sent Date:	2017/03/22 09:43:22
Delivered Date:	2017/03/22 09:43:00

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To:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: NWHW 2017 Website Review
Date:	2017/03/02 16:43:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Sure. Headed out but will review in the AM.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 4:22 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: FW: NWHW 2017 Website Review

Hi Brooke & Candace!

Brooke – As discussed, review it all please.

Candace – You are welcome to review it all, but I would love your eyes on the [social media](#) and [the quiz](#).

And please read Alli's email first. I would appreciate your reviews by next week; what is a realistic date for you?

Thank you,

Jill

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 2:26 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn; Patricia Nicastri; Laura Koehler; Darcy Sawatzki
Subject: NWHW 2017 Website Review

Hi Jill,

I'm excited to share with you the preview links for the NWHW 2017 website:
<http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwhw>

As you're reviewing, please keep the following in mind:

- **The pink date:** I know we talked about removing this from the header, but we think this information needs to be on every page. If we remove it, the date is pretty buried. It only appears on the About page and the Fact sheet page within the page text, so it's not very visible. We

recommend keeping the date on every page, but we should determine when you'd like to pull it down after NWHW.

- **External links:** Not all of the external links currently open in a new tab, but this is actually something we're setting up to happen automatically. They should be behaving properly soon, definitely before the launch.
- **Homepage:** We were unable to rebuild the dropdown "Select your age group" because it used deprecated code that doesn't work on our current server environment. You'll see that we instead used the same age bar that we use on the "Steps for better health" pages. Let us know what you think.
- **Partner and Ambassador page:** We're working on adding icons to the bottom of these pages, but it's taking some extra time because the templates for these pages are unique. This may happen post launch.
- **Partner page:** We're working on the spacing on this page and the size of the logos so that they're smaller. They'll appear [3x3 like last year](#). This change will happen before the launch.
- **Infographics:** Some of the share messages aren't working properly, but we're working on it and will have it corrected before the launch.
- **Quiz:** Similar issue with the share messages, but we're working on it. Also, for the results, we're looking to remove some of the space between the share buttons and the explanation for each result.

We're looking forward to your feedback! Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Alli

ALLISON HALL-JORDAN

Account Supervisor

1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
D 202.706.7439



cid:11DF56E6-4FD0-4F80-9770-F80E900C1226

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Recipient:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2017/03/02 16:43:44
Delivered Date:	2017/03/02 16:43:00

From:	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services <cmslists@subscriptions.cms.hhs.gov>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	Covering Indian Country, January 2018
Date:	2018/01/11 16:17:18
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note



January 2018

Spotlight: Noreen Jackson-Underwood

The [Roger Saux Health Center](#), started as a small collection of modular trailers, but today, it has grown into a first-class center for health and wellness for the Quinault Indian Nation on Washington State's Olympic Peninsula.



Noreen Jackson-Underwood
Medical Services Manager Noreen Jackson-

Underwood says the health center offers a wide range of services, including basic health care, behavioral health care, chemical dependency counseling, diabetes prevention, dentistry, a denture clinic, a fitness center, a pharmacy, and social services, like the Women with Infant Children (WIC) program.

"Because transportation is sometimes an issue for our clients, we try to offer higher levels of care at our facility," she said.

Much of the expansion in services can be attributed to the health center's ability to bill Medicare, Medicaid, and private insurance. In early years, some tribal members didn't understand why they needed to sign up for health insurance, but now they see how much those dollars benefit the community in terms of improved health care.

"Third-party reimbursements finance a lot of positions. That's how we are able to hire and retain our medical providers."

- Noreen Jackson-Underwood, Medical Services Manager, Quinault Indian Nation Roger Saux Health Center

Jackson-Underwood oversees the health center's medical providers, nursing staff, community health representatives, medical records, and the WIC program and acts as the patients' advocate. She was recently presented the National Indian Health Board's Local Impact Award for her 21 years of dedication to meeting the health care needs of every patient.

January 2018

The advertisement features a silhouette of a person standing on a mountain peak with arms raised in triumph, set against a vibrant sunset sky. The year '2018' is prominently displayed in large, dark numerals. In the top left corner, the HealthCare.gov logo is visible. The text 'Jumpstart' is written in a large, bold font, with 'Jump' in white and 'start' in yellow. Below it, the phrase 'the new year with health insurance.' is written in white. To the right of the '2018' numerals, a list of services is provided, each preceded by a yellow checkmark in a square box. At the bottom of the advertisement, a line of text provides a website link and a phone number.

HealthCare.gov

2018

Jumpstart

the new year with health insurance.

Health insurance offers free preventive services to help you keep your resolutions:

- ✓ stop smoking programs
- ✓ nutrition screenings
- ✓ blood pressure and cholesterol checks

Learn more at go.cms.gov/nativehealth or call 1-800-318-2596.

Jump start the new year with health insurance. 2018: Health insurance offers free preventive services to help you keep your resolutions.

Share this ad in your newsletter or on your website. Other sizes are available on CMS's [Outreach and Education Resources page](#).

Public service announcements

Share these informational audio clips and videos on your local radio station, website, and Facebook page.



Soundcloud Audio

[English](#)

[Lakota](#)

[Navajo](#)

[Ojibwe](#)

[Yupik](#)

[Zuni](#)



Youtube Video

[English](#)

[Lakota](#)

[Navajo](#)

[Ojibwe](#)

[Yupik](#)

[Zuni](#)



Brochures and PSAs

[Medicare Preventive Services](#) (PDF, 423 KB, 1 pp) lists free preventive services available under Medicare.

[Essential Health Benefits for American Indians and Alaska Natives](#) (PDF, 2.5 MB, 2 pp) summarizes health services covered by all plans on the Health Insurance Marketplace, Medicaid, and CHIP.

[Health Matters to Storyteller Gene Tagaban](#) is a PSA video that addresses diabetes and the importance of health coverage and developing healthy habits. Share CMS's collection of [Health Matters videos](#) on your social media channels or air them in your waiting room.

Download or order copies of these resources on the [Tribal Products Ordering Page](#). Please allow 2 weeks for your order to be completed.

Additional Resources

Protect the Circle of Life with a flu vaccine

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that everyone over the age of 6 months get a flu vaccination each year.

Native people are at high risk for developing serious flu complications. Use CDC's [Protect the Circle of Life resources](#) to encourage American Indians and Alaska Natives to get their flu vaccinations. These resources include fact sheets, brochures, posters, flyers, and postcards.



Dr. Blythe Winchester

"As health care professionals, we need to lead by example. It's important for us to get vaccinated and remind patients to get a flu vaccine every year, especially before the holidays. Explain the positives of flu vaccination and be transparent about how it affects your body and health."

- *Dr. Blythe Winchester, Family Practitioner at Cherokee Indian Hospital*

It is not too late to get a flu vaccine for the [2017-18 flu season](#). Share the facts.

- After vaccination, it takes about 2 weeks for antibodies to develop and protect people from the most common flu viruses.
- The flu vaccine reduces the risk of getting the flu and developing complications by 40–60%.
- People can spread flu even when they don't feel sick.

Stop smoking resources

Keep It Sacred logo National Native Network
With the new year come resolutions to improve health and the perfect opportunity to connect patients to stop smoking programs. These programs are an essential health benefit covered by Medicare, Medicaid, and health insurance.



The National Native Network's [Keep It Sacred campaign](#) features resources with culturally relevant messaging for American Indians and Alaska Native communities.

The [Keep It Sacred campaign quit line program](#) provides participants up to 10 calls with a Native coach per attempt to stop smoking and 8 weeks of nicotine replacement therapy. For more information, call 1-855-372-0037.

StrongHearts Native Helpline offers a lifeline to Native

American domestic violence survivors

Man swinging happy child through air as woman looks on. Everyone deserves to feel safe, loved, and respected. StrongHearts Native Helpline, 1-844-7NATIVE

The [StrongHearts Native Helpline](#) offers culturally appropriate and confidential help to Native Americans affected by domestic and dating violence.



In its first 8 months of operation, the helpline served callers from 53 tribal nations and 38 states. StrongHearts advocates navigate each caller's abuse situation with a deep understanding of tribal communities, culture, and tradition. The helpline is funded by a grant from the [Family Violence Prevention and Services](#) program.

According to the [Rape Abuse & Incest National Network](#), American Indians are [twice as likely to be raped or sexually assaulted](#) as people of other races.

StrongHearts Native Helpline Communications Manager Mallory Black encourages health care workers to refer domestic violence survivors to the StrongHearts Native Helpline. Red flags to watch for include injuries—black eyes and bruises—and stress-related problems, including depression, anxiety, and stomach pain.

Displaying [hotline posters](#) and offering brochures in waiting rooms, bathrooms, and exam rooms may reach those who do not feel comfortable talking to their health care provider. "It can really help people who are looking for resources or building up courage," Black said. "They can call when they are ready."

Resources:

- [StrongHearts Native Helpline](#) —1-844-7NATIVE— available Monday to Friday from 9 a.m.–5:30 p.m. Central

- • [World Health Organization clinical guidelines](#) (PDF, 904 KB, 86 pp) for health care workers responding to children and adolescents who have been sexually abused
- • Centers for Disease Control and Prevention information about [sexual violence prevention](#) and [domestic violence prevention](#)

New report details mental health disparities for Native American elders

American Indians and Alaska Native Medicare Advantage beneficiaries reported worse mental health than other racial groups, according to a [new report](#) from the CMS Office of Minority Health.

The data highlight examines physical and mental health outcomes for Medicare Advantage beneficiaries by race and ethnicity. Data show that American Indians and Alaska Natives reported more depression, more days of missed activities because of poor physical and mental health, and worse mental health functioning than other racial groups

The study was undertaken to better understand the diagnosis and treatment of mental health in older adults.

U.S Transgender Survey: Health experiences of Native respondents

'2015 U.S. Transgender Survey: a Report on the Experience of American Indian and Alaska Native Respondents.' Three smiling people

Of transgender American Indians and Alaska Natives, 50% report having at least one negative experience when getting health care,



according to the [2015 U.S Transgender Survey](#): Report on the Experience of American Indian & Alaska Native Respondents (PDF, 3.9 MB, 38 pp).

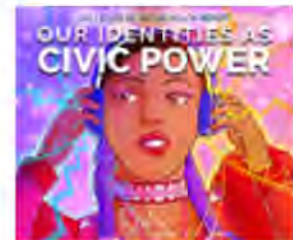
When getting health care, transgender American Indians and Alaska Natives reported:

- • being refused treatment,
- • being verbally abused,
- • being physically or sexually assaulted, and
- • teaching a provider about how to give care to transgender people.

2017 State of Native Youth Report: Our Identities as Civic Power

'2017 State of Native Youth Report: Our Identities As Civic Power' Drawing of young Native woman wearing headphones

Mental health is a top concern for American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) youth, according to the [2017 State of Native Youth Report: Our Identities As Civic Power](#) (PDF, 12 MB, 29 pp).



According to the report from the Aspen Institute's [Center for Native American Youth](#), 18 to 24-year-old AI/AN youth want more mental health clinics, therapists, and support groups to help them overcome mental health issues, like suicide.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [Suicide Facts at a Glance 2015](#) (PDF, 107 KB, 2 pp), lists suicide as the second-leading cause of death among AI/AN youth.

Mental health issues among AI/AN youth are often associated with historical and intergenerational trauma, depression, and alcohol or substance abuse.

Data for the State of Native Youth Report was gathered from the Generation Indigenous online roundtable survey.

Responding to the opioid crisis

Opioid abuse affects individuals, their loved ones, and entire communities. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Native Americans died of opioid drug overdoses in 2014 at a rate of 8.4 per 1,000 people—the highest rate of any racial group.

Learn more:

- CMS interactive [Medicare Part D Opioid Prescribing Mapping Tool](#)
- National Congress of American Indians Policy Research Center fact sheet [Responding to the Opioid Crisis: An Update for Tribal Leaders](#) (PDF, 527 KB, 2 pp)
- National Indian Health Board fact sheet [Addressing the Opioid Epidemic in American Indian and Alaska Native Communities](#) (PDF, 149 KB, 2 pp)
- National Public Radio [interview with Dr. Ron Shaw](#), president of the Association of American Indian Physicians, on how tribes and the medical community are addressing opioids

Calendar of Events

HHS, Administration for Community Living Older Americans webinars

[View upcoming webinars:](#)

January 17, 2018

Title VI Webinar: Responding to Long-Term Supports and Services Needs

CMS Indian Health Service, Tribal Health Programs, and Urban Indian Health trainings

These trainings are for business staff, benefits coordinators, medical records staff, and patient registration staff. They cover CMS Tribal Affairs updates, Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, the Health Insurance Marketplace, state-administered programs, Social Security, and Veterans Affairs. Each training lasts 3 days. The third day, hosted by Indian Health Service, focuses on how to maximize access to third-party resources and improve access to quality health care.

[Trainings in 2018](#)

- March 20–22 in Denver, CO
- April 3–4 in Seattle, WA
- April 17–19 in Sacramento, CA
- April 23–24 in Albuquerque, NM
- May 8–9 in Dallas, TX

2018 Native Women and Men's Wellness and Diabetes Prevention Conference

March 25–28, 2018

New Orleans, LA

[Learn more](#)

The American Indian Institute at the University of Oklahoma conference will offer presentations by national speakers, continuing education, networking opportunities, and resources to enhance diabetes prevention services.

Native American Child and Family Conference

March 12–15, 2018

Las Vegas, NV

[Learn more](#)

This conference will provide training opportunities related to Head Start, Early Head Start, and child care programs.

2018 Tribal Self-Governance Annual Conference

April 22–26, 2018

Albuquerque, NM

[Learn more](#)



About the Newsletter

Covering Indian Country is published by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Division of Tribal Affairs to share resources, success stories, and best practices with the people who connect tribal communities to health insurance.

[Download Adobe Reader](#) for the best reading experience with PDF files.

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Delivered Date:	2018/01/11 16:17:18

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To:	Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=66bf54ed301743d0b71473b5b9f57502-Greene, Nic>
Subject:	Approval of Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) video for SCP
Date:	2018/04/13 16:01:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Nicole,
Does this work?

OASH Communication Leads,
This email is to give approval of the OWH video on Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS). A description is provided below.

Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) video:

The PCOS video is a short animated clip to explain PCOS and the symptoms. It will be used on social media to direct viewers to the OWH website and the fact sheet for more information on PCOS.

Link to Video: <https://vimeo.com/241719837/a59ee2d451>

Please let me know if you have questions or need additional information for SCP approval.

Thank you,

Sender:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
Recipient:	Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=66bf54ed301743d0b71473b5b9f57502-Greene, Nic>
Sent Date:	2018/04/13 16:17:01
Delivered Date:	2018/04/13 16:01:00

From:	Office on Womens Health <owh@service.govdelivery.com>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	April Digest: News You Can Use
Date:	2017/04/20 16:03:26
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

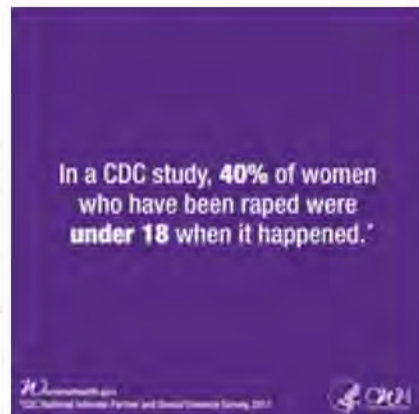


Main Header

News You Can Use

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Help your patients understand sexual assault by printing the HHS Office on Women's Health (OWH) [Sexual Assault fact sheet](#) for your office. Our partner American Academy of Pediatrics recently updated recommendations regarding teen sexual assault in the clinical report [Care for the Adolescent After an Acute Sexual Assault](#), published in March 2017.



In a CDC study, 40% of women who have been raped were under 18 when it happened.

OWH Continuing Professional Development

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Grand Rounds: "Addressing the Unique Challenges of Opioid Use Disorder in Women"

OWH and CDC developed a Grand Rounds session on opioid misuse in women; you can still [view the presentation](#) and gain continuing education credits. Be sure to also view "Beyond the Data," a one-on-one interview with Mishka Terplan, M.D., M.P.H., FACOG, FASAM.

OWH National Meeting on Opioid Use, Abuse, &Overdose in Women

Check out our [panel discussion](#) from the OWH National Meeting on Opioid Use, Abuse, & Overdose in Women held in September 2016. It covers topics like reproductive health, abuse of fentanyl and heroin, and use of naloxone. The panel was facilitated by OWH Director of the Division of Strategic Communications Jennifer Bishop-Crawford, Sc.D., M.P.H.

What are your plans for this year's National Women's Health Week?

We are live! Dive into the [National Women's Health Week website](#) and see what we have in store for you! Celebrate with us May 14–20, 2017. If you haven't already ordered your health professional toolkit with sample social media messages, sample newsletter text, and links to helpful tools you can share with your patients, contact [Cheryl Thompson](#).

Funding Opportunity

The purpose of the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention funding is to provide partial support for specific non-federal conferences in the areas of health promotion, disease prevention information and education pro-grams, and applied research. Conferences supported under this program announcement must be specific to one or more of the following focus areas: HIV and AIDS, viral hepatitis, sexually transmitted diseases, tuberculosis, or adolescent health. [Applications](#) are due May 30, 2017.

“Putting Science to Work for the Health of Women Healthy Women Make Healthy Communities: Women as Makers”

Please join the NIH Office of Research on Women's Health during National Women's Health Week for the 2nd Annual Vivian Pinn Symposium on Wednesday, May 17, 2017, at 2 p.m. ET. Register [here](#).

Congenital Syphilis

Did you know that congenital syphilis is increasing in the United States? According to the CDC, women accounted for about one in 10 syphilis cases in 2015, or 2,298 total cases. The syphilis rate increased 27.3% among women 2014–2015. CDC has a [number of tools and resources](#) to protect women and pregnant patients.



Congenital syphilis is...

TAG Talks

The Office of Adolescent Health (OAH) announced the first two videos in a

new series created as part of the Adolescent Health: Think, Act, Grow® (TAG) call to action. The video series is co-sponsored by OAH and the federal Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs. The video "[The Power of the Adolescent Brain](#)" reviews adolescent brain development and how it affects learning, health, and behavior.

For more updates, follow OWH on [Twitter](#).

Volume 1, Issue 3

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Did you get this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive Office on Women's Health updates.

Stay connected with us!

- [Womenshealth.gov](#)  [Twitter](#)  [facebook](#)
- OWH Helpline: 800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

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Delivered Date:	2017/04/20 16:03:26

From:	Hurwitz, Emily (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=0D6A38098DE14AEFB896F8C9FC116005-HURWITZ, EM>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Factsheet Update
Date:	2017/12/06 15:50:14
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Candace,

Thank you for sending this along. I made these updates!

Best,
Emily

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, December 5, 2017 6:15 PM
To: Hurwitz, Emily (HHS/OASH) <Emily.Hurwitz@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Factsheet Update

Hi Emily,

Here are my updates below. We can't say the account is the 2nd most popular because we have no way of proving it. CDC used to make this information available on their website but they no longer post it. Thanks for working with Brooke on the fact sheet!

OWH reaches over 1.6 million people with public health messages on social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest. Our @womenshealth Twitter account is one of the most popular Twitter accounts in HHS.

From: Hurwitz, Emily (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, December 05, 2017 2:17 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: Factsheet Update

Hi Candace,

I am helping Brooke update the "[About the HHS OWH](#)" Factsheet and I wanted to get your input for the social media piece. In the last version this is the blurb that was used:

Social Media

OWH reaches close to 1.5 million people with public health messages on social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest. Our @womenshealth Twitter account is the second most popular Twitter account in HHS.

Is this still relevant? Please let me know if you have any changes or any ideas for additional blurbs.

Thank you!

Emily

Sender:	Hurwitz, Emily (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=0D6A38098DE14AEFB896F8C9FC116005-HURWITZ, EM>
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Sent Date:	2017/12/06 15:50:14

From:	U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services <donotreply@subscriptions.hhs.gov>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services Daily Digest Bulletin
Date:	2017/12/15 05:17:05
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note



HHS Banner

Support National Drug & Alcohol Facts Week

12/14/2017



part of National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week!

Participate in [National Drug & Alcohol Facts Week](#), sponsored by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA). This health observance is an opportunity for teens to learn the facts about drug and alcohol use and addiction from scientists and other experts.

Organize and promote an educational event or activity for teens during the week of **January 22–28, 2018** to help shatter myths about drugs and alcohol. [Register your event](#) and NIDA staff can help you brainstorm activity ideas, partner with other organizations, and order **FREE** science-based materials complement your event.

NIDA also has several resources to help create a successful event:

- A [Five Steps to Hosting a National Drug & Facts Week Event](#) fact sheet
- The [Get Activity Ideas and Toolkits](#) web page
- Posters, flyers, and other customizable [promotional materials](#)

- A [web page](#) describing events that have already been registered

The NIDA approval process for National Drug & Alcohol Facts Week events may take up to two weeks, so start planning now!

For more information, contact drugfacts@nida.nih.gov.

U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services HHS Digital Community HHS Digital Community Newsletter

12/14/2017

Happy Holidays to the Community! Please remember that you are welcome to forward this newsletter to your colleagues as appropriate and have them sign up for the emails themselves. [Subscribe to the HHS Digital Community](#)

Promote Your Public Health Training on the CDC Learning Connection



CDC Learning Center Logo

Does your program have online courses or other learning opportunities that you'd like to promote?

Each month, the **CDC Learning Connection** (<https://www.cdc.gov/learning/index.html>) works with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) programs, funded partners, and other federal agencies to promote their quality learning opportunities to public health professionals, including healthcare workers. The CDC Learning Connection:

- Features learning opportunities that align with national health observances and priority topics
- Keeps public health professionals up-to-date on the latest training through a monthly newsletter and social media messages
- Offers access to thousands of training opportunities through CDC TRAIN—CDC's online learning system
- Connects professionals to information about CDC internships and fellowships

- • Makes it easy to locate courses that offer continuing education

If you have learning opportunities to promote, contact learning@cdc.gov.

Also, be sure to check out December's featured learning opportunities (<https://www.cdc.gov/learning/index.html>)! Courses cover opioids, environmental health in emergencies, and forensic epidemiology.

December Digital Council Meeting

HHS Digital Council members convened at 5600 Fishers Lane for the December meeting hosted by HRSA. Thank you, HRSA! The Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Dr. Charmaine Yoest welcomed the members via livestream video. Co-chairs, Mark Weber and Bill Trefzger walked the members through a variety of updates to the various programs managed by ASPA Digital and high priority initiatives including cross-department work to address the Opioids Epidemic digitally.

ASPA Digital is partnering with Opdivs and Staffdivs to create an Opioid website that will launch later this month. It is being built in Drupal 8, using a modified version of the U.S. Web Design Standards. Christy Choi shared HRSA's Analytics Dashboard that launched in September. They have piloted with four offices in HRSA and are finding the web managers are more informed and able to make better decisions about their content that is useful for the public.

In January, the HHS Digital Product Inventory will be published to provide a list of HHS websites, social media accounts, listservs and applications. All divisions will be helping to maintain the inventory that will get updated quarterly.

The council also discussed the recent report published on government website performance. <https://itif.org/publications/2017/11/27/benchmarking-us-government-websites>

Digital Community Road Trip



Image of Road and Sign for Road

Trip

Throughout 2017, ASPA Digital has worked to better align resources with leadership and program needs. The HHS Digital Council and Digital Community are meeting on a regular basis again. Operating and Staff division: have provided insight into the products and services they find of value and identified areas for improvement. To continue the effort, we will be visiting your location soon. We are hitting the road to meet the OpDivs/Sta Divs. Be on the lookout for an invitation from Christen Geiler or Debra Harris, or send us an invite to meet w you. We want to gather feedback on how ASPA Digital can better serve you in the coming year.

ASPA Digital Staff Announcement

Starting this week, ASPA Digital has a new 'acting' deputy director. Stacey Palosky, our Engagement Team Manager, will be taking on the additional duties temporarily in place of Bill Trefzger who has been in the position for over two years. Bill is taking on the role of Content Team Manager here at ASPA Digital. Mark Weber remains as the acting director.

Let us hear from you

Send your ideas for webinars and newsletter topics for the HHS Digital Community Newsletter. No ideas are too big or too small. We want to hear from you. Send your ideas to Christen.Geiler@hhs.gov

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Sent Date:	2017/12/15 05:16:48
Delivered Date:	2017/12/15 05:17:05

To:	Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ac73a58ee24044bc98c4dd74e24d8740-Phenix, Adr>
Subject:	FW: OWH in the News
Date:	2018/03/21 12:02:07
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Sorry. I was trying to add you and

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2018 11:54 AM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Cc: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: OWH in the News

Jenn,

Here is a snapshot of what I'm seeing on social media. The largest number of retweets of the articles is 10 so there's not a lot of activity. I'll continue to monitor throughout the day.
Candace

OWH in the News

March 21

Articles

Here are the major news articles observed online:

- <https://www.politico.com/story/2018/03/21/hhs-strips-lesbian-bisexual-health-content-from-womens-health-website-430123>
- <https://sunlightfoundation.com/2018/03/21/federal-womens-health-office-obscures-lesbian-and-bisexual-fact-sheet-online/>

Social Media

Here are the tweets that are being shared across social media:

Politico Pro

<https://twitter.com/POLITICPro/status/976454632997302272>

-
Politico Pro is an arm of Politico news outlet that shares emerging news affecting policy.

Twitter Handle: @POLITICPro

Twitter Followers: 16.9K

Sun Foundation

<https://twitter.com/SunFoundation/status/976473632384876544>

<https://twitter.com/SunFoundation/status/976472090944724992>

The Sun Foundation is a national, nonpartisan nonprofit organization that advocates for open government.

Twitter Handle: @SunFoundation

Twitter Followers: 73.7K

Sunlight Web Integrity Foundation

<https://twitter.com/SunWebIntegrity/status/976471060018270208>

Team of Sun Foundation that investigates changes in public info and access to Web resources.

Twitter Handle: @SunFoundation

Twitter Followers: 140

Other Tweets

Marissa D. Barrera: <https://twitter.com/mdb2/status/976455418070339584>

Candace Marshall, MPH
Health Communications Specialist



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201
Email: Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov
Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-690-5414
Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
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Message Flags:	Unsent
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From:	U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services <donotreply@subscriptions.hhs.gov>
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Subject:	U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services Daily Digest Bulletin
Date:	2017/04/14 08:10:52
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note



HHS Banner

OAH News Now: April 2017

04/13/2017



OAH NEWS NOW
QUARTERLY UPDATE



OAH News Now Updated Banner

"During National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month this May, the nation celebrates the progress made in teen pregnancy prevention. OAH is committed to engaging youth, families, and communities in implementing evidence-based programs and developing new and innovative approaches to continue the nation's historic progress in preventing teen pregnancy and ensuring that youth are healthy and thriving."

—Evelyn Kappeler, Director, HHS Office of Adolescent Health

- [FACTS & STATS](#)
- [ADVANCING ADOLESCENT HEALTH](#)
- [PREVENTING TEEN PREGNANCY](#)
- [SERVING EXPECTANT AND PARENTING YOUNG FAMILIES](#)
- [INVESTING IN RESEARCH AND EVALUATION](#)

FACTS & STATS

Teen birth rates have declined dramatically over the past two plus decades and are at historic lows. In recognition of National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month (NTPPM) in May, we reflect on the progress the nation has made and the challenges that remain.

- Since peaking in 1991, the U.S. teen birth rate has [declined 64%](#) and rates are down in all 50 states and among all racial/ethnic groups.
- Since the inception of the OAH Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) Program in 2010, teen birth rates have [declined 35%](#).
- Despite historic progress, [significant disparities remain](#). Teen birth rates are almost twice as high among Hispanic and non-Hispanic black teens as among non-Hispanic white teens. Teen birth rates remain about one-third higher in rural areas than in urban areas. Rates remain disproportionately high among vulnerable youth, including youth living in out-of-home care, LGBTQ youth, and parenting teens.

ADVANCING ADOLESCENT HEALTH

- The **Adolescent Health: Think, Act, Grow®** (TAG) section of the OAH website includes annotated [Research Reviews](#) linked to each of the TAG Five Essentials for Healthy Adolescents.
- The second video in the [TAG Talks series](#) focuses on The Power of the Adolescent Brain and features Frances Jensen, MD, a neurologist from the University of Pennsylvania. Additional resources, including discussion guides for professionals and family members, accompany the video.
- The OAH [Game Plan for Engaging Youth](#) summarizes ideas for actively involving adolescents in promoting their health and healthy development, including [guiding principles](#) for getting youth involved.

PREVENTING TEEN PREGNANCY

[NTPPM](#) takes place in May and is a great opportunity to engage youth. Meaningful [youth engagement](#) is critical to continuing progress in preventing teen pregnancy and ensuring healthy, thriving adolescents. OAH has a number of activities planned for NTPPM.

- • **Get Involved in NTPPM webinar** on Wednesday, April 19, 2-3 p.m. ET, will present tips and ideas from OAH grantees and their youth participants on how to get involved, including how to engage youth in the planning and implementation of activities to recognize the month. Learn more about the webinar and sign up at <https://cc.readytalk.com/r/3wv5qee9ms65&eom>.
- • **NTPPM Twitter Chat** on Wednesday, April 26, 1-2 p.m. ET, will feature ideas about how you can support National Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month. Follow the conversation and participate using #NTPPM.
- • **NTPPM Supporter Kit** will include a "What You Can Do" fact sheet, sample social media language, sample newsletter language, and a sample customizable news release.
- • **Digital content** will include a NTPPM Participation "Badge" that can be added to your website or shared through social media and a NTPPM "Learn More" web-ready banner.
- • **Social media cover art** will include digital images that allow users to show their support for NTPPM on their Facebook and Twitter pages.

The Supporter Kit, digital content, and social media cover art will be available soon on the [OAH website](#).

SERVING EXPECTANT AND PARENTING YOUNG FAMILIES

- • From Fiscal Years 2010-2015, more than 60,000 participants received services through the [Pregnancy Assistance Fund](#) (PAF) in 23 states and four tribes. Overall, 63% of those who received services were ages 18 and older; 50% were Hispanic, 49% were White, 31% were Black, and 10% were Native American. The most common services received include case management, parenting skills, education support, healthy relationships education, home visitation, concrete supports like food and supplies, and linkages to health care and childcare services.
- • Programs serving expectant and parenting teens have traditionally focused efforts and services toward young mothers. Not surprisingly, however, research shows that supporting young fathers can have significant and positive effects on both young fathers and their children. [OAH has a number of resources for engaging young fathers](#).

INVESTING IN RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

- • OAH is funding 24 TPP grantees nationwide to rigorously evaluate new approaches to help teens avoid pregnancy. [This brief](#) describes the goals, research designs, populations of interest, and expected outcomes of this set of grant projects.
- • OAH recently concluded a rigorous implementation and impact evaluation of New Heights, a Washington, DC Public Schools program that provides a multi-faceted approach for supporting parenting students' educational attainment. In 2010, the Government of the District of Columbia was awarded a three-year PAF grant to expand

the New Heights program. The study found that the program made a significant impact on academic outcomes, such as school attendance and credit accumulation. A report that provides an in-depth description of the program model and student and staff perceptions of its success will soon be available on the [OAH website](#).

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From:	ONC Health IT <onchealthit@service.govdelivery.com>
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Subject:	Reminder: 2017 ONC Annual Meeting
Date:	2017/10/24 14:04:15
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note



[HealthIT.gov Banner](#)

What's Happening in Health IT

IN THIS ISSUE

- [2017 ONC Annual Meeting](#)
- [Other Health IT Updates](#)

2017 ONC Annual Meeting

The 2017 ONC Annual Meeting, *Tackling Barriers to Interoperability and Usability*, is around the corner! Learn more about the speakers and check out the [2017 ONC Annual Meeting agenda](#) for the latest updates.

There are only 5 days left to reserve your hotel room in the ONC room block. [Secure your room](#) before the room block expires on Sunday, October 29, 2017.

Register: [ONC Annual Meeting](#)

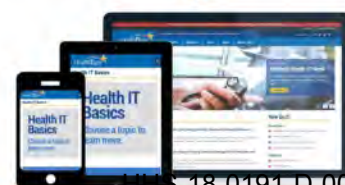
Date: November 30 – December 1, 2017

Location: Washington Hilton, 1919 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20009

Other Health IT Updates [HealthIT.gov Beta Website](#)

National Cyber Security Awareness Month (NCSAM): Today's predictions for tomorrow's Internet; sharing our personal health information securely to benefit our health and wellbeing!

As technology and connectivity develops at a rapid rate and healthcare becomes more interoperable, it is vital to identify key



<https://beta.HealthIT.gov>

strategies for security, safety, and privacy not just for today, but for many years to come.

Smart cities, connected healthcare devices, electronic health records and smart cars and homes have become our new reality. Our personal data is what makes these devices work. While there are tremendous benefits from this kind of interconnectivity, it is critical to understand how to use cutting-edge technology in safe and secure ways.

A few Tips:

- Own Your Online Presence: set the privacy and security settings on your device to your comfort level for information sharing.
 - Pause and think before downloading an app; familiarize yourself with the app's privacy policies & settings before using.
- Enjoy countless mobile apps while maintaining online safety. See fact sheet: [Internet Theft Resource Center](#).
- Get savvy about WiFi hotspots: Public WiFi isn't secure. Consider what you would want a stranger to see. [Learn more safety tips for mobile devices](#).

CMS announces preview of draft eCQM specifications using CQL

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) invites electronic clinical quality measure (eCQM) implementers to preview draft measure specifications using the Clinical Quality Language (CQL) standard for logic expression. These are available for review and comment until November 13, 2017, on the [ONC CQM Issue Tracker](#) via the following tickets:

- Eligible hospital and critical access hospital measures ([CQM-2858](#))
- Eligible professional and eligible clinician measures ([CQM-2860](#))

For more information, read the [eCQI Resource Center announcement](#).

[The Office of the National coordinator for Health Information Technology](#)

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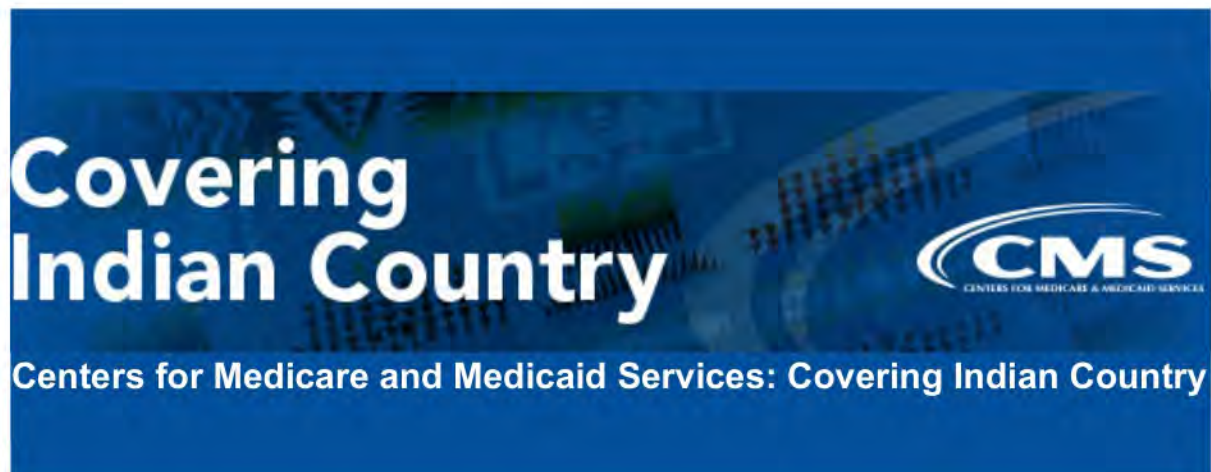
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From:	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services <cms@kauffmaninc.com>
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Subject:	[MARKETING EMAIL]Covering Indian Country—Healthy from birth
Date:	2017/05/31 09:08:14
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

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May 2017

Celebrating your success

Mark Ramos, a Coeur d'Alene tribal member from Spokane, WA, was out of a job and needed health insurance when he turned to the tribal enrollment team at Benewah

Medical Center in nearby Plummer, ID. They connected him with a state program that extended his health insurance from the Veteran's Administration.



Mark Ramos

"It was a savior to me because I had no knowledge that that program existed. They enrolled me and I was insured for a year before qualifying for health insurance benefits from a new employer—the Coeur d'Alene Casino. They made it as easy as A-B-C. They processed the enrollment through the website, input all my information, my income, and found a provider."

Learn more about the Coeur d'Alene tribal enrollment team at TribalSelfGov.org.

We want to hear about how you are connecting people to health care! Email your success stories to us at coveringic@kauffmaninc.com.

May: Healthy from birth

Coverage for healthy mothers, healthy babies

Medicaid, CHIP, and the Marketplace help moms and babies stay healthy during pregnancy, at birth, and through babyhood.

They cover:

- Prenatal care
- Delivery
- Well-baby visits
- Breastfeeding help, including a breast pump

Learn more



Coverage for healthy mothers, healthy babies

Share this ad in your newsletter or on your website.

Public Service Announcements

Share these informational audio clips and videos about Medicare (Part D) on your local radio station, website, and Facebook page.



Soundcloud Audio

[English](#) [Lakota](#) [Navajo](#) [Ojibwe](#) [Yupik](#) [Zuni](#)



Youtube Video

[English](#) [Lakota](#) [Navajo](#) [Ojibwe](#) [Yupik](#) [Zuni](#)



Twitter

Tweet it

Healthy from birth—#Medicaid, CHIP, and insurance help moms and babies thrive.

Video: <http://bit.ly/2qkBhN4>

#CMSNativeHealth

#MothersDay

Flyers and Fact Sheets



A collage of ACA-related flyers and fact sheets

[Healthy Students, Promising Futures: School-based health for Indian Country](#) (PDF, 740 KB, 2 pp) offers suggestions for connecting students to insurance, health care opportunities in schools, and building partnerships between schools and tribal health providers.

[CHIP, Medicaid, Medicare, and the Health Insurance Marketplace at a Glance](#) (PDF, 1 MB, 2 pp) provides a chart detailing benefits and eligibility for different forms of insurance.

Download these files or order copies of these resources on the [Tribal Products Ordering Page](#). Please allow 2 weeks for your order to be completed.

Additional Resources

Quitting Tobacco? Let's Talk.

Free help to stop smoking—including medication and counseling—is covered by all insurance policies under the Affordable Care Act. This is a great benefit to talk about to clients and patients when you are signing them up for insurance.

The [National Native Network's \(NNN\) Keep it Sacred program](#) is a great resource for information about stop smoking programs and strategies specifically tailored for American Indians and Alaska Natives. NNN is a coalition of tribes and health partners working to decrease commercial tobacco use and cancer health disparities among Native people. Joshua Hudson, NNN Program Manager, provides these helpful tips to health professionals when discussing commercial tobacco use with patients.



Joshua Hudson, NNN
Program Manager

- Approach the conversation without judgement. Encourage their efforts by pointing out the health benefits that come with a tobacco-free lifestyle.
- Talk about how commercial tobacco contains chemicals that increase the risk for severe health problems that can shorten their lifespan, like heart disease, diabetes, and cancer.
- Discuss the cultural significance of traditional tobacco for ceremonies and prayers and emphasize that tobacco is a sacred resource for some Native

people. It should not be abused.

- Remember, quitting takes time and may take multiple attempts. Be supportive and confident in their ability to quit.

Learn more at keepitsacred.org and follow NNN on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for additional resources.

CMS All Tribes Call

FY 2018 Medicare Inpatient Prospective Payment System Proposed Rule and Request for Information (CMS-1677-P)

May 22, 2017

[Listen to the recording.](#)

On April 14, 2017, CMS issued a proposed rule to update 2018 Medicare payment and policies that determine when patients are admitted into hospitals. This rule contains special provisions related to Indian Health Service and tribal hospitals.

As part of this rule, CMS is releasing a Request for Information (RFI) to find ways to improve and simplify the health care delivery system by reducing the burden for clinicians, providers, and patients while increasing quality of care and decreasing costs.

In this All Tribes' Call, Medicare experts presented a brief overview of the rule, reviewed the fact sheet and uncompensated care payments, and described the provider-based proposals explained in the rule and how the proposals relate to conditions of participation.

Comments to both the proposed rule and RFI are due by June 13, 2017.

[More information](#) about the rule.

CMS Emergency Preparedness Final Rule Webinar

CMS Survey and Certification Emergency Preparedness (EP) Conditions of Participation requirements are outlined in final rules published on Sept. 16, 2016. The EP Final Rule requires Medicare and Medicaid participating providers and suppliers to meet the following four best practice standards.

1. • **Emergency plan:** Develop an emergency plan focusing on capacities and capabilities that are critical to preparedness for a full spectrum of emergencies specific to the location.
2. • **Policies and procedures:** Develop and implement EP policies and procedures.
3. • **Communication plan:** Develop and maintain a communication plan that complies with both federal and state law.
4. • **Training and testing program:** Develop and maintain training and testing programs.

A May 18 CMS webinar outlined regulatory requirements for this Condition of Participation for IHS, tribal, and urban providers to compare to their facility's existing EP Plan. The Condition of Participation must be implemented by Nov. 16, 2017.

[View the webinar.](#)

[Learn more about the rule.](#)

Protect Our Future: Preventing Youth Nicotine Addiction

Did you know that electronic cigarettes are the most commonly used form of tobacco among youth and young adults in the United States? The U.S. Surgeon General and Health and Human Services (HHS) issued the report, [E-Cigarette Use Among Youth and Young Adults](#), detailing this trend.

Federal agencies are working to protect youth from the harmful impacts of commercial tobacco:

- Share the Surgeon General's PSA, "[Any Volunteers? The Risks of E-cigarettes for Young People.](#)"
- Learn how the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is working to educate tribal retailers about regulations regarding tobacco sales to minors by watching the video, "[Protect Our Future: Prevent Tobacco Sales to Minors.](#)"



Cover of the Surgeon General and Health and Human Services (HHS) report of e-cigarettes

New Tribal Public Health Broadcast

The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) Public Health Policy and Programs Department recently released a weekly publication. This resource helps people stay informed with the latest public health resources and events throughout Indian Country. It also provides updates on health care enrollment, webinars, and trainings that may benefit public health professionals.



National Indian Health Board logo

Encourage people to sign up for this newsletter by [submitting their name and email](#).

Calendar of Events

2017 Indian Health Training

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) provides trainings to patient benefits advocates on the programs and benefits available through Medicare, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and the Health Insurance Marketplace.

June 19, 2017

[Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center](#), Nashville, TN

[Learn more](#) and register for a training in your area.

2017 Novitas Indian Health Service Workshop

[Novitas Solutions, Inc.](#), will conduct workshops for patient benefits and billing staff working in Indian Health Service (IHS) facilities and programs. The sessions will focus on Medicare topics, including enrollment requirements, patient screening tools, billing guidelines, and Medicare updates. The workshops will offer focused overviews of Part A and Part B services that are referenced in the IHS Training Manual.

June 13, 2017

[Tuba City Regional Health Care Corporation](#), Tuba City, AZ

July 13, 2017

[Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority](#), Cherokee, NC

July 19, 2017

[Bemidji Area IHS](#), Bemidji, MN

August 15, 2017

[Chickasaw Nation Community Center](#), Ada, OK

September 19, 2017

[Hilton Garden Inn](#), Gallup, NM

Contact Gail Atnip, Provider Outreach & Education Specialist, with Novitas at gail.atnip@novitas-solutions.com or (443) 791-1119.

National Tribal Public Health Summit

June 6–8, 2017

[Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center](#), Anchorage, AK
[Learn more and register](#)

The [National Indian Health Board](#) is sponsoring this summit. The summit will focus on health promotion, disease prevention, public health policy and infrastructure, substance misuse, behavioral health, climate change, environmental health, and youth wellness.

2017 NCAI Mid Year Conference & Marketplace

June 12–15, 2017

[Mohegan Sun](#), Uncasville, CT
[Learn more and register](#)

The [National Congress of American Indians](#) (NCAI) is sponsoring this event. Learn about current policies that affect American Indians and Alaska Natives in the areas of health, education, culture, natural resources economic development, and tribal governance.

USET Semi-Annual Meeting

June 20–22, 2017

[Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center](#), Nashville, TN
[Learn more and register](#)

This gathering will bring together membership from the [United South and Eastern Tribes](#) (USET) and representatives from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Service. It will feature discussions, work sessions, and updates on issues important to USET members and tribal governments.

National UNITY Conference

July 6–10, 2017

[Colorado Convention Center](#), Denver, CO

[Learn more and register](#)

The United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) organization is sponsoring this event. This event will focus on Native American youth health and fitness, cultural enrichment, and education. Community leaders, youth activists, and advisors are encouraged to attend.

IHS Direct Service Tribes National Meeting

August 2–3, 2017

[Double Tree by Hilton Hotel Boston North Shore](#), Danvers, MA

[Learn more](#)

This event will focus on supporting community wellness and will incorporate an open forum session on Direct Service Tribes' health priorities, including the opioid crisis in Indian Country, the integration of traditional medicine, Indian Veterans, childhood obesity and adolescent wellness, and patient-centered care. The [Indian Health Service](#) (IHS) is sponsoring this meeting.


AI/AN National Behavioral Health Conference

August 15–17, 2017


[Hard Rock Casino &Hotel](#), Tulsa, OK

[Save the date](#)


This event will focus on American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) behavioral health topics including alcohol and substance misuse prevention and treatment, suicide prevention, domestic violence, and workforce development. This event will also feature a special session on the [Tribal Behavioral Health Agenda](#). Co-sponsors of this event are the [National Indian Health Board](#) and the [Indian Health Service](#).

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About the Newsletter

Covering Indian Country is published by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Division of Tribal Affairs to share resources, success stories, and best practices with the people who connect tribal communities to health coverage.

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Date:	2017/03/10 09:02:29
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note



Main Header

How Will You Put Your #BestDefense Into Play Today?



National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

Today, people all across the United States are joining together to observe [National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day](#) and help shed light on the impact of HIV and AIDS on women and girls. With this year's theme, **"The Best Defense Is a Good Offense,"** the Office on Women's Health wants to empower women and girls to protect their sexual health, engage in healthy relationships, and put their best defense into play.

Here's what you can do today to join us:

- • Learn how [women](#) and [girls](#) can lower their risk of getting HIV.
- • Join the NWGHAAD [Thunderclap](#) before 12:00 p.m. ET. Adding your voice allows us to reach women and girls across the country!
- • Share [encouraging words](#) from our 2017 ambassadors.
- • Read how our ambassadors [fight against the stigma of HIV](#) and [stand with HIV-positive women](#).
- • Learn more about NWGHAAD with our [fact sheet](#).
- • Find [ideas](#) to observe NWGHAAD in your community.
- • Use **#NWGHAAD** and **#BestDefense** on social media to talk about how you are protecting yourself and others from HIV.

For more information, visit the National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day [website](#).

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Did you get this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive Office on Women's Health updates.

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- • OWH Helpline: 800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

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Subject:	Challenge Details and Health IT Webinars
Date:	2017/05/17 13:03:17
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What's Happening in Health IT

IN THIS ISSUE

- [Patient Matching Algorithm Challenge Informational Webinars](#)
- [Federal Health Architecture: FHIR Testing with Touchstone and FHIM Viewer Learning Series](#)
- [Now Available: eMeasurement and Quality Improvement Webinar Recording](#)
- [New Buzz Blog Post: Making Health IT "Usable" on the Frontlines](#)

OTHER HEALTH IT HIGHLIGHTS

- [CMS: New Lookup Tool to Help Clinicians Determine their MIPS Participation Status](#)
- [AHRQ: Improving Visual Presentations of Health Information Webinar](#)

Patient Matching Algorithm Challenge Informational Webinars

Register for today's Patient Matching Algorithm Challenge Informational Webinar. The webinar, which begins at 4pm ET, will provide details about the challenge that will launch in June. Winning submissions will receive up to 6 cash prizes totaling \$75,000. If you miss this webinar, there will be one more held on May 24, 2017 at 4pm ET. [Visit the Patient Matching Algorithm Challenge website](#) to read more about the challenge.

Date & Time: Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at 4:00pm ET

Register: [Patient Matching Algorithm Challenge Informational Webinar](#)

Federal Health Architecture: FHIR Testing with Touchstone and FHIM Viewer Learning Series

The Federal Health Architecture (FHA) will host a webinar on the Touchstone Project open access solution for health information exchange. The second presentation will review the Federal Health

Information Model (FHIM) View which is a free, online service where users can search online or explore an intuitive 'mind map' to quickly target and collect specific health elements from thousands within the portal.

Date & Time: Friday, May 19, 2017 at 2:30 – 4:00pm ET

Register via email: Federal.Health@hhs.gov

Now Available: eMeasurement and Quality Improvement Webinar Recording

Did you miss our webinar on **Innovations in the Use of Electronic Health Data for eMeasurement and Quality Improvement**? ONC hosted a roundtable discussion on opportunities to foster innovation in electronic data exchange for eMeasurement and quality improvement. National thought leaders shared their experiences and insights about innovative approaches. [View a recording of the event.](#)

New Buzz Blog Post: Making Health IT “Usable” on the Frontlines

Usability is [defined](#) as the effectiveness, efficiency and satisfaction with which users achieve specified goals in particular environments. Nurse informaticists are on the frontlines helping improve the usability of health IT systems in their facilities and practices. ONC Chief Nursing Officer Rebecca Freeman looks at the work of three nurse informaticists meeting the challenges to make their electronic systems more usable in the latest Buzz Blog Post: [Making Health IT “Usable” on the Frontlines.](#)

OTHER HEALTH IT HIGHLIGHTS

CMS: New Lookup Tool to Help Clinicians Determine their MIPS Participation Status

Unsure of your participation status in MIPS? Clinicians can now the [CMS Quality Payment Program website](#) to determine their status and if they should participate in 2017 and where to find resources. To learn more, review the [MIPS Participation Fact Sheet](#).

AHRQ: Improving Visual Presentations of Health Information Webinar

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) will be hosting a webinar on how to improve the visual presentation of health data for patients, doctors, nurses and other health professionals. Topics will include how to effectively present electronic health record (EHR) clinical notes to clinicians and how clinicians can use navigators to document information within EHRs. Eligible professionals may earn 1.5 hours of free continuing education credits.

Date & Time: Tuesday, May 30, 2017 at 1:30 – 3:00 pm ET

Register: [Improving Visual Presentations of Health Information Webinar](#)

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twitter



National Cancer Institute

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

21 Sep



@theNCI
icon

RT @NCItreatment: The #NCIFormulary is a public-private partnership offering expedited access to 29 cancer agents for research: <https://t.c...>

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

21 Sep



@theNCI

NCI supports research on the delivery of cancer care & improving the quality of life of cancer survivors... <https://t.co/pm7M6kutKV>

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

What are the challenges of treating metastatic cancer? Dr. Rosandra Kaplan of @NCIResearchCtr explains:...
<https://t.co/FXZwqidUpK>

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

RT @SGottliebFDA: Positive news for the next generation: current tobacco use by U.S. high school students declined from 2015-16.
<https://t.co/...>

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NCI Media Relations NCIMedia

20 Sep

John Schiller discusses importance of basic research, #HPV , @NIH intramural research &more w/ @Dina_Maron @sciam
<https://t.co/woA300YFrn>

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

If you have questions about lymphoma or cancer that we did not get to, please feel free to contact us: <https://t.co/I0exZMNHQD>
#PedAYACat

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep



@theNCI
icon

Thanks, everyone, for a terrific chat! #PedAYACHat

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep



@theNCI
icon

To learn more about childhood non-Hodgkin lymphoma, please visit:
<https://t.co/hak3KJ3chc> #PedAYACHat

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep



@theNCI
icon

To learn more about childhood Hodgkin lymphoma, please visit:
<https://t.co/yWVjIWu2Mx> #PedAYACHat <https://t.co/le0zXITHwl>

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep



@theNCI
icon

RT @NCIResearchCtr: A10: Researchers are exploring how to
optimize the role of CAR-T cells in lymphoma #PedAYACHat

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep



@theNCI
icon

CAR T-cell therapy approved for some children and young adults
with leukemia <https://t.co/ei0NRwvEst> #immunotherapy...
<https://t.co/E2B2MrnF1m>

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20 Sep



@theNCI
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After your child finishes treatment for cancer, what's next?
Survivorship care for children:... <https://t.co/Z0QRMHnvGn>

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep



@theNCI
icon

RT @NCItreatment: A9: Currently there are 7 treatment arms open
on #PediatricMATCH with 3 more arms to be added over the next
few months. #...

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep



@theNCI
icon

The NCI-Children's Oncology Group #PediatricMATCH Cancer
Treatment Trial is enrolling patients with... <https://t.co/6HuEjuh2u7>

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep



@theNCI
icon

Where can families get support when a child has cancer? Our guide
for parents has resources:... <https://t.co/MSBU5cTvFn>

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

If you have questions about blood-forming stem cell transplants, here is our fact sheet on this topic:... <https://t.co/Iy0ZVcus7v>

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

RT @DrCarlaCasulo: A3 There are over 60 different types of #lymphoma. Hodgkin lymphoma is one of the most common lymphomas affecting AYAs....

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

Here's a list of the stages of childhood non-Hodgkin lymphoma & information about tests used in staging:... <https://t.co/ajjLHZ2Kh>

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NCI Media Relations NCIMedia

20 Sep

RT @NCIDrDoug: During @postlive conversation, I discussed how #CancerMoonshot is helping to accelerate progress in cancer research <https://t.co/ajjLHZ2Kh>

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

Are you thinking about joining a #clinicaltrial? Here are some questions you could ask a doctor:... <https://t.co/QEqfwqapqm>

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

RT @DrCarlaCasulo: A1: Lymphoma is type of blood cancer affecting white blood cells called lymphocytes. It's essentially a cancer of immune...

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

Thanks to everyone who has joined our lymphoma chat! Please feel free to ask our experts questions using... <https://t.co/pr3CqnIQbL>

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

RT @NCItreatment: A6: NCI's website has more information on childhood Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma treatment: <https://t.co/uJwgnU8ijd> #PedAYAChat

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20 Sep

RT @NCItreatment: A6: NCI's website has more information on childhood Hodgkin Lymphoma treatment: <https://t.co/LLgepLJAji> #PedAYAChat

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

Tests that examine the lymph system, such as blood chemistry studies, are used to detect & diagnose childhood Hodgk...
<https://t.co/e31riGYEul>

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

If you need help finding a clinical trial please contact our information specialists: <https://t.co/I0exZMNHQD> or 1-...
<https://t.co/xdeYhT5g07>

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

RT @NCIResearchCtr: .@IshwariaMD We would love to see increased participation in all clinical trials #PedAYAChat

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

RT @NCItreatment: A3: The incidence of NHL is increasing slightly in patients 15-19 years of age #PedAYAChat

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

RT @NCIadvocacy: Have questions about lymphoma? You can join the conversation using #PedAYAChat. @NCIResearchCtr @NCItreatment @lymphoma #B...

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

RT @NCIResearchCtr: A3: Two main types of lymphoma are Hodgkin lymphoma and non-Hodgkin lymphoma (NHL). These can occur in both children an...

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

Leukemia is cancer of the blood cells. The type of leukemia depends on the type of blood cell affected:...
<https://t.co/bRZ8Qrah95>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

RT @RoswellPark: A1: There are several subtypes of #lymphoma so an accurate diagnosis (blood test, chest x-ray, lymph node biopsy) is essen...

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep

Lymphoma is cancer that begins in cells of the lymph system, which is part of the immune system.... <https://t.co/HhXPLWfwol>

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 **National Cancer Inst** theNCI 20 Sep

 **@theNCI**
icon

RT @NCItreatment: Dr. Nita Seibel here - excited to be here for the chat today. #PedAYAChat

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)

 **National Cancer Inst** theNCI 20 Sep

 **@theNCI**
icon

RT @NCIResearchCtr: Hi everyone! Dr. Nirali Shah here. I'm very excited to be part of the #PedAYAChat Twitter chat. <https://t.co/2XWOBPFM...>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)

 **NCI Media Relations** NCIMedia 20 Sep

 **@NCIMedia**
icon

Starting soon: Twitter chat featuring Nita Seibel @NCITreatment & Nirali Shah @NCIResearchCtr along with @lymphoma... <https://t.co/fgn6Zg1HrN>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)

 **National Cancer Inst** theNCI 20 Sep

 **@theNCI**
icon

Lymphoma is cancer that begins in cells of the lymph system. Please join our chat moderated by @lymphoma at 2:30 pm... <https://t.co/tNRcimnwaV>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)

 **National Cancer Inst** theNCI 20 Sep

 **@theNCI**

RT @NCIadvocacy: @theNCI @lymphoma Just about an hour till the #PedAYAchat moderated by @lymphoma. Follow

icon

@NCItreatment &@NCIResearchCtr....

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Sep



@theNCI
icon

Developing new treatments for children with cancer:
<https://t.co/oqLfBaITgb> #childhoodcancer #CCAM #NCIfuture
<https://t.co/bVi2a9aJFN>

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This email was sent to candace.marshall@hhs.gov using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of:
National Cancer Institute · BG 9609 MSC 9760 · 9609 Medical Center Drive · Bethesda, MD 20892



Sender:	National Cancer Institute < nci@updates.cancer.gov >
Recipient:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/09/21 10:31:55
Delivered Date:	2017/09/21 10:33:10

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Fungal Disease Awareness Week
Date:	2017/07/27 15:03:07
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Is that the fungus in the background?

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Thursday, July 27, 2017 3:02 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: FW: Fungal Disease Awareness Week

Did you see these graphics?

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Thursday, July 27, 2017 2:37 PM
To: Jaggi, Neha (CDC/OID/NCEZID)
Cc: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: FW: Fungal Disease Awareness Week

Hi Neha,

I've forwarded your request on to my colleague copied above, Candace Marshall, who is now leading OWH's social media efforts. Thanks for thinking of us!

Warm regards,
Brooke

From: Jaggi, Neha (CDC/OID/NCEZID) [<mailto:mtq6@cdc.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, July 27, 2017 2:31 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: Fungal Disease Awareness Week

Dear Brooke,

August 14–18, 2017, is the first Fungal Disease Awareness Week. CDC and partners have organized this week to raise awareness among the public and healthcare providers about fungal diseases. [Fungal diseases](#) often go undiagnosed and cause serious illnesses around the world. Increased awareness about fungal diseases is one of the most important ways to reduce delays in diagnosis and treatment, which can lead to better health results and save lives.

Please join us in raising awareness of fungal diseases and encouraging the public and healthcare providers to "Think Fungus" when a person's symptoms are not getting better with treatment!

Three easy ways to participate are:

1. JOIN the #FungalWeek Thunderclap – Monday, August 14

CDC will launch a Thunderclap campaign on August 14 at 10 am ET to kick off Fungal Disease Awareness Week. Thunderclap helps amplify social media messages by connecting partners and friends to share the same message at the same time through Facebook, Twitter, and Tumblr. The [@CDC_NCEZID](#) Twitter account is hosting the #FungalWeek Thunderclap initiative, and you can **join with this link:** <http://thndr.me/r38Aq4>. You can sign up as late as 9:59 am ET on August 14 — but we encourage you to sign up now — it just takes one click!

2. PROMOTE the Thunderclap with your members and on social media

Here are some sample social media messages that you are welcome to use as soon as possible, along with the attached graphics.

Twitter

- Join CDC's #ThinkFungus thunderclap campaign for #FungalWeek!
<http://thndr.me/r38Aq4>
- Partner with CDC to #ThinkFungus during #FungalWeek by joining the thunderclap campaign! <http://thndr.me/r38Aq4>
- It's not too late! Join CDC's #ThinkFungus thunderclap campaign for #FungalWeek today!
<http://thndr.me/r38Aq4>

Facebook

- Fungal diseases can cause serious infections but often go undiagnosed because their symptoms look like those of other diseases. Partner with CDC to "Think Fungus" during Fungal Disease Awareness Week by joining the thunderclap campaign:
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3. SHARE CDC's Fungal Disease Awareness Week resources

Visit the Fungal Disease Awareness Week [website](#) for the following resources you can promote on your website:

- Buttons and banners
- Web features on fungal disease and Valley fever
- Educational materials, including a new fact sheet on *Candida auris*

More information will be provided soon on social media messages you can send the week of August 14. Use #FungalWeek in social media so we can track engagement on social media during the observance week.

Thanks for your support and for helping to raise awareness of this important issue.

Best,
Neha

Neha Jaggi, MPH

ORISE Fellow
Division of Foodborne, Waterborne, and Environmental Diseases (DFWED)
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID)
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Phone: 404.718.1025
Email: njaggi@cdc.gov

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Sent Date:	2017/07/27 15:03:06
Delivered Date:	2017/07/27 15:03:07

From:	Jaggi, Neha (CDC/OID/NCEZID) <mtq6@cdc.gov>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Fungal Disease Awareness Week
Date:	2017/07/27 14:41:08
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Wonderful! Thank you so much!

Neha

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Thursday, July 27, 2017 2:37 PM
To: Jaggi, Neha (CDC/OID/NCEZID) <mtq6@cdc.gov>
Cc: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: FW: Fungal Disease Awareness Week

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Neha Jaggi, MPH
ORISE Fellow
Division of Foodborne, Waterborne, and Environmental Diseases (DFWED)

National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID)
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
Phone: 404.718.1025
Email: njaggi@cdc.gov

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Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/07/27 14:39:55
Delivered Date:	2017/07/27 14:41:08

From:	U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services <donotreply@subscriptions.hhs.gov>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services Daily Digest Bulletin
Date:	2017/07/28 05:46:16
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note



HHS Banner

OAH News Now: July 2017

07/27/2017



OAH NEWS NOW
QUARTERLY UPDATE



OAH News Now Updated Banner

Actively engaging youth and adults in efforts to help teens avoid pregnancy is a winning formula used by many OAH grantees, including The Mary Black Foundation (MBF). Through their Connect initiative, MBF is focusing on communities in South Carolina with the greatest need by providing evidence-based interventions at middle schools and positive youth development programming at community partner sites in schools and recreational facilities. One of their educators says it best: "It's actually helped me as a parent just really build on what I can do in my own home for my kids and the direction that we are going."
—Evelyn Kappeler, Director, HHS Office of Adolescent Health

- [FACTS & STATS](#)
- [ADVANCING ADOLESCENT HEALTH](#)
- [PREVENTING TEEN PREGNANCY](#)
- [SERVING EXPECTANT AND PARENTING YOUNG FAMILIES](#)
- [INVESTING IN RESEARCH AND EVALUATION](#)

FACTS & STATS

The way teens spend their time can strongly influence their health later in life. For example, they need plenty of sleep, good nutrition, regular exercise, and time to form relationships with family, friends, and caring adults. A [snapshot](#) of a day in the life of the American teenager shows that:

- Teens sleep an average of 8.6 hours on weekdays (8.2 hours for girls and 9.2 hours for boys) and 10.9 hours on weekends (about the same for boys and girls).
- High school boys and girls spend about the same amount of time in class, doing homework, eating and drinking, and working. However, boys spend about one more hour per day on media and communications, such as texting, and girls spend more time than boys on both leisure and religious activities.
- On the average weekday, teen boys spend more time alone than with family (3.5 hours and 2.9 hours respectively). Teen girls spend more time with family than alone (3.8 hours and 2.7 hours respectively).

ADVANCING ADOLESCENT HEALTH

- The redesigned OAH website now features an updated [Mental Health](#) section. Learn more about adolescent mental health in the U.S., including common disorders, issues regarding access to care, and tips for how adults can support teens with mental health issues.
- A new [podcast series](#) for youth-serving professionals and peer leaders on approaches to HIV prevention is now available through OAH's Adolescent HIV/AIDS Prevention National Resource Center. Tune in to hear "[Stories from the Field](#)" and learn from the personal and professional experiences of people who do this work every day. With support from the HHS Secretary's Minority AIDS Initiative Fund,

the [What Works in Youth HIV](#) podcast series provides innovative and practical content that can help youth-serving providers and peer leaders meet the needs of youth at highest risk for HIV/AIDS.

PREVENTING TEEN PREGNANCY

The redesigned OAH website also houses a one-stop [Resource Center](#) that provides training materials and resources for grantees and other organizations working to reduce teen pregnancy and STDs or support expectant and parenting teens and their families. Resource Center topics range from community mobilization and sustainability to engaging diverse populations. All materials are free and downloadable.

OAH's Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) Program grantees continue to change the lives of young people. [Two new profiles](#) showcase the work being done in communities:

- West Virginia has the sixth highest teen birth rate in the country and the decline has been at a slower pace than other parts of the country. Through the Teaching Health Instead of Nagging Kids (THINK) program, [Mission West Virginia](#) is working to replicate evidence-based TPP education for young people in rural West Virginia and encourage community participation. In addition to implementing two evidence-based program models, they engage the community through five regional Community Advisory Groups (CAG) and seven Youth Leadership Councils (YLC). The CAGs and YLCs convene a number of community-sponsored events throughout the year in order to foster positive youth development.
- Although the overall teen birth rate in Spartanburg County, South Carolina declined by nearly half in recent years, disparities persist for certain zip codes and sub-populations, such as African-American teens and older teens. The [Mary Black Foundation's Connect](#) initiative collaborates with local adolescent-serving agencies in Spartanburg County to build agencies' capacity to implement evidence-based programs and ensure a network of supportive resources for adolescents and their families.

SERVING EXPECTANT AND PARENTING YOUNG FAMILIES

OAH recently awarded 16 new, competitive **Pregnancy Assistance Fund (PAF)** grants to 15 states and one tribal entity. The one-year project period starts July 1, 2017 and ends June 30, 2018. For more information about these new PAF Program awards, please see the [OAH news announcement](#).

The reach, scope, and success of the PAF Program are highlighted in a new report, [Performance Measures Snapshot, Pregnancy Assistance Fund \(PAF\), Fiscal Year 2016](#). More than 60,000 participants have received services through the PAF Program in 23 states and four tribes (FY 2010-2015). The report includes impressive outcomes for the program compared to national averages for expectant and parenting young people. In FY 2016, for example:

- 94% of those served who were seniors in high school graduated from high school.
- Only 5% of the parenting young mothers served experienced a repeat pregnancy

during the year.

INVESTING IN RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

- OAH's **Positive Adolescent Futures** study aims to identify effective programs that offer a seamless network of support for teen mothers and fathers and their children. OAH is conducting three evaluations of programs that serve expectant and parenting teens. The evaluation efforts in California, Washington, DC, and Texas are outlined in this new [fact sheet](#).
- The first implementation and impact report completed under the Positive Adolescent Futures Study is of **New Heights**, a school-based model serving expectant and parenting high school students in Washington, DC. New Heights is a former PAF program that was evaluated by OAH. The goal of the program is to improve attendance, increase graduation rates, and decrease the number of repeat pregnancies. The [evaluation study](#) found that the program had a significant impact on academic outcomes such as school attendance and credit accumulation. Read the [implementation brief](#) and [impact brief](#) for summaries of findings from this study.
- OAH is supporting a study to understand whether and how programs were sustained after federal grant funding ended. A new [brief](#) discusses lessons learned from a set of grantees previously funded through the PAF Program, and includes tips about sustainability that current and future grantees can use to plan appropriately. A [tip sheet](#) provides a brief summary of these lessons learned.

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Sender:	U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services <donotreply@subscriptions.hhs.gov>
Recipient:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/07/28 05:45:40
Delivered Date:	2017/07/28 05:46:16

From:	ONC Health IT <onchealthit@service.govdelivery.com>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	HHS Update #4: International Cyber Threat to Healthcare Organizations (Revised)
Date:	2017/05/17 11:46:50
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note



[HealthIT.gov Banner](#)

HHS Update #4: International Cyber Threat to Healthcare Organizations (Revised)

IN THIS ISSUE

- [If you are the victim of ransomware or have cyber threat indicators to share \(**Revised with web addresses**\)](#)
- [HHS Office of Civil Rights Guidance on HIPAA specific to WannaCry](#)
- [CISA Protections for private sector information sharing](#)
- [Where can I find the most up-to-date information from the U.S. government?](#)
- [Why connect with your local fusion center?](#)
- [FDA's Public Workshop - Cybersecurity of Medical Devices](#)
- [How to request an unauthenticated scan of your public IP addresses from DHS](#)

If you are the victim of ransomware or have cyber threat indicators to share (Revised with web addresses**)**

If your organization is the victim of a ransomware attack, HHS recommends the following steps:

1. • Please contact your FBI Field Office Cyber Task Force (www.fbi.gov/contact-us/field/field-offices) immediately to report a ransomware event and request assistance. These professionals work with state and local law enforcement and other federal and international partners to pursue cyber criminals globally and to assist victims of cyber-crime.
2. • Please report cyber incidents to the US-CERT (www.us-cert.gov/ncas) and FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (www.ic3.gov).
3. • For further analysis and healthcare-specific indicator sharing, please also share these indicators with HHS' Healthcare Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center

(HCCIC) at HCCIC_RM@hhs.gov

HHS Office of Civil Rights Guidance on HIPAA specific to WannaCry

- As outlined in its guidance available on its website, OCR presumes a breach in the case of ransomware attack. The entity must determine whether such a breach is a reportable breach no later than 60 days after the entity knew or should have known of the breach. A request by law enforcement to hold reports tolls the 60-day reporting deadline. For a copy of the ransomware guidance, please see: <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/RansomwareFactSheet.pdf?language=es>.
- The ransomware guidance also includes important information about ransomware and how compliance with the HIPAA Security Rule helps entities prepare for ransomware attacks, including with regard to contingency planning. For more guidance on the Rule's requirements, please see <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/security/guidance/index.html>.
- OCR has shared its FAQ on sharing of cyber threat indicators under CISA with federal partners, and it is available on the OCR website. Please see <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/faq/2072/covered-entity-disclose-protected-health-information-purposes-cybersecurity-information-sharing/index.html>.
- Reporting information to law enforcement, DHS, or other HHS divisions does not constitute inadvertent or intentional reporting to OCR. All reporting of breaches to OCR should be made as required by the HIPAA Breach Notification Rule. Important Note: If the data is not encrypted by the entity to at least NIST specifications when the ransomware attack is deployed, then OCR presumes a breach occurred, due to the ransomware attack. As such, the entity would need to prove, through forensic or other evidence, that the ePHI was encrypted when the attack occurred, and the ransomware containerized (or encrypted again) already-encrypted ePHI. Please see <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/breach-notification/index.html>.

CISA Protections for private sector information sharing

DHS has provided guidance to non-federal entities sharing threat indicators and defensive measures with federal entities. This document may be useful to private sector legal council for interpreting CISA protections. Please visit the below link for details: https://www.us-cert.gov/sites/default/files/ais_files/Non-Federal_Entity_Sharing_Guidance_%28Sec%20105%28a%29%29.pdf

Where can I find the most up-to-date information from the U.S. government?

- For overall Cyber Situational Awareness visit the US-CERT National Cyber Awareness System webpage at: <https://www.us-cert.gov/ncas>
- NCCIC portal for those who have access: hsin.dhs.gov
- Indicators Associated With WannaCry Ransomware:
- US-CERT - Alert - TA17-132A - <https://www.us-cert.gov/ncas/alerts/TA17-132A>
- ICS-CERT - Alert - 17-135-01 - <https://ics-cert.us-cert.gov/alerts/ICS-ALERT-17-135-01>

Healthcare and Public Health-directed Resources:

- ASPR TRACIE: Healthcare Cybersecurity Best

Practices: https://asprtracie.hhs.gov/documents/newsfiles/NEWS_05_13_2017_08_17_11.pdf

- Fact Sheet on the FDA's Role in Medical Device

Security: <https://www.fda.gov/downloads/medicaldevices/digitalhealth/ucm544684.pdf>

Why connect with your local fusion center?

The federal government leverages the unique skills and capabilities of the National Network of Fusion Centers. With timely, accurate information on potential threats, fusion centers directly contribute to and inform investigations initiated and conducted by federal entities. This National Network is a "force multiplier" in preventing, protecting against, and responding to criminal and terrorist threats.

Find your local fusion center by

visiting: <https://nfcausa.org/default.aspx/MenuItemID/117/MenuGroup/Public+Home.htm>

FDA's Public Workshop - Cybersecurity of Medical Devices

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA), in association with National Science Foundation (NSF) and Department of Homeland Security, Science and Technology (DHS, S&T) is announcing the following public workshop entitled "Cybersecurity of Medical Devices: A Regulatory Science Gap Analysis."

The purpose of this workshop is to examine opportunities for FDA engagement with new and ongoing research, catalyze collaboration among Health Care and Public Health (HPH), stakeholders to identify regulatory science challenges, discuss innovative strategies to address those challenges, and encourage proactive development of analytical tools, processes, and best practices by the stakeholder community to strengthen medical device cybersecurity.

This meeting will be held May 18-19, 2017, beginning at 8:00 am - 5:00 pm at the following location:

FDA White Oak Campus
10903 New Hampshire Avenue
Bldg. 31, Room 1503
Silver Spring, MD, 20993

For further details go

to: <https://www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices/NewsEvents/WorkshopsConferences/ucm549732.htm>

How to request an unauthenticated scan of your public IP addresses from DHS

The US-CERT's National Cybersecurity Assessment & Technical Services (NCATS) provides integrated threat intelligence and provides an objective third-party perspective on the current cybersecurity posture of the stakeholder's unclassified operational/business networks.

- NCATS focuses on increasing the general health and wellness of the cyber perimeter by broadly assessing for all known external vulnerabilities and configuration errors on a persistent basis, enabling proactive mitigation prior to exploitation by malicious third parties to reduce risk.
- Attributable data is not shared or disseminated outside of DHS or beyond the stakeholder; non-attributable data is used to enhance situational awareness.

NCATS security services are available at no-cost to stakeholders. For more information please contact NCATS_INFO@hq.dhs.gov

[The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology](#)

Questions? [Contact Us](#) | Visit HealthIT.gov
Share Your Health IT Issues and Challenges



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Recipient:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/05/17 11:43:32
Delivered Date:	2017/05/17 11:46:50

To:	Allyson Harkey <AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>
CC:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagersharp.com>
Subject:	RE: Mini promotion?
Date:	2018/05/28 11:03:30
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Allyson,

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, May 25, 2018 11:36 AM
To: 'Allyson Harkey' <AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>
Cc: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: Mini promotion?

Hi Allyson,
Thanks for sending these ideas. Here's some feedback.

Twitter Ads

I talked with Cheryl and we like the strategies for the Health Provider Printables and Shareables Twitter ads.

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If these don't work with the text, can you recommend some additional images?

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Image 2: This one is nice but it looks odd because the doctor is on the couch. It would only work in ads focused on counseling/mental health services. Plus she doesn't have the white coat, stethoscope or scrubs that usually identify a health professional.

Image 3: We used this doctor in the original ads so we'd like to use another image.

Google Ads

This list looks good with the exception for the pregnancy content in Spanish.

I just talked with Brooke and she mentioned the content is old. The updated content is still in review so we'd prefer to wait to promote this content. I'm curious- is this one of the most downloaded fact sheets?

The Asthma fact sheet has been recently updated in Spanish so we'd like to promote the English and Spanish versions.

If there are funds still available, Insomnia would be a good one for promotion in Spanish.

I know that you are out today so if you or your team have questions, just let me know. I'm teleworking today.

Have a good weekend!

Candace

From: Allyson Harkey [<mailto:AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>]

Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2018 7:18 PM

To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Cc: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: RE: Mini promotion?

Candace and Adrienne,

Thanks so much for getting on the phone with me today. Here are some ideas for this mini-promotion. Please feel free to choose the ones that you'd like me to move forward with:

Google Search Ads

I would promote some recently updated and/or translated fact sheets. I think any of these would be useful for women searching online for information around common issues:

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[Image 1](#)

[Image 2](#)

[Image 3](#)

I'm out of the office tomorrow but will be checking email and can purchase images/get these started while I'm gone, if you like any of these ideas. Otherwise, I'll be back in on Tuesday.

Thanks and have a great holiday!
Allyson

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 23, 2018 2:20 PM
To: Allyson Harkey <AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>
Cc: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
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Let's try 12. I spoke too soon about having my afternoon free. LOL

From: Allyson Harkey [<mailto:AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>]
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To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Cc: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
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Quick question: If we use the P&S infocards but with new images, do you think they'd need to go through clearance again?

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I think this is a great idea as long as Ann approves. Do you have time to chat about this today or tomorrow?

The infocards from the Printable and Shareables have already been cleared through SCP so we can easily move forward with launching P&S ads. Since we launched them last year and most recently for NWHW, I really like to create some new graphics.

My schedule is pretty flexible on both days so let me know what works for you.

Candace

Candace Marshall, MPH
Health Communications Specialist



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201
Email: Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov
Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-690-5414
Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

From: Allyson Harkey [<mailto:AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>]
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To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Cc: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) <Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
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Of course this would only work if 1) you want to do it and 2) the promo plan for it doesn't get tied up in clearance.

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What do you think?

Thanks,
Allyson

ALLYSON HARKEY

Digital Content Specialist/Digital Strategist

1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
D 202.706.7463



cid:image002.png@01D08199.BE6E6670

Recipient:	Allyson Harkey <AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>
Sent Date:	2018/05/28 11:03:40
Delivered Date:	2018/05/28 11:03:30
Message Flags:	Unsent

To:	Allyson Harkey <AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>
CC:	Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ac73a58ee24044bc98c4dd74e24d8740-Phenix, Adr>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>
Subject:	RE: Mini promotion?
Date:	2018/05/25 11:31:42
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

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cid:image002.png@01D08199.BE6E6670

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Delivered Date:	2018/05/25 11:31:42
Message Flags:	Unsent

From:	National Cancer Institute <nci@updates.cancer.gov>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	Twitter Top News from NCI
Date:	2017/08/28 10:32:11
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note



twitter



National Cancer Institute

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SHARE

[Bookmark and Share](#)

You are subscribed to Twitter Top News from the National Cancer Institute. See the latest tweets below.



National Cancer Inst theNCI

28 Aug



@theNCI
icon

RT @NCISymptomMgmt: Check out the new NCORP responsive website to learn about clinical trials in your community at <https://t.co/lfmSiQuqrC...>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



National Cancer Inst theNCI

28 Aug



@theNCI

RT @NCIprevention: Barry Kramer, MD, kicks off the NCORP annual meeting of investigators who bring clinical trials to the

icon community. [https...](https://t.co/K9s7kJGxjM)

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



National Cancer Inst theNCI

28 Aug

RT @NCISymptomMgmt: #Cancer patients displaced by hurricane Harvey can get help and info from @theNCI or @ASCO <https://t.co/K9s7kJGxjM> htt...

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



National Cancer Inst theNCI

28 Aug

RT @NCI_Training: NCI is helping to train the next generation of scientists. <https://t.co/Hdhxld4mYk> #NCItraining <https://t.co/3jBrhtTYzT>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



National Cancer Inst theNCI

20 Aug

FDA approves neratinib (Nerlynx) to prevent recurrence in some patients with early-stage HER2-positive breast cancer... <https://t.co/hIUu256Dpf>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



National Cancer Inst theNCI

27 Aug

U.S. cancer mortality rates are falling, but some regions have been left behind, a new study reports... <https://t.co/4xgYUVpvVV>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



National Cancer Inst theNCI

25 Aug



@theNCI
icon

How does radiation kill cancer cells? Our fact sheet on radiation therapy and cancer explains:... <https://t.co/vzul2LxDcQ>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



National Cancer Inst theNCI

25 Aug



@theNCI
icon

The drug trastuzumab emtansine (Kadcyla®) improves survival for some patients with metastatic breast cancer:... <https://t.co/Sq0IxGLZFL>

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NCI Media Relations NCIMedia

25 Aug



@NCIMedia
icon

Article by @HelenBranswell @statnews on @CDCgov report on #hpv vaccines important for #cancerprevention <https://t.co/4FtWImJB6R>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



National Cancer Inst theNCI

25 Aug



@theNCI
icon

After a diagnosis of cancer, the risk of heart attack and stroke may be elevated, new research suggests:... <https://t.co/Nk6hKJAozE>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)





National Cancer Inst theNCI

25 Aug



For #NationalDogDay on 8/26, here's info on NCI's Comparative

 **@theNCI** Oncology Program, which has clinical trials for pets...
 <https://t.co/Mhi1tLptN1>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)

 **National Cancer Inst**  [theNCI](#) 25 Aug
 **@theNCI** Aiming to prevent hereditary cancers, researchers focus on
 **icon** #LynchSyndrome <https://t.co/hpADTG2XRq> #CancerMoonshot...
<https://t.co/vwfktBTNwJ>

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 **National Cancer Inst**  [theNCI](#) 25 Aug
 **@theNCI** Do you have questions about cancer or #clinicaltrials? Our
 **icon** information specialists can help (hours):... <https://t.co/kwtRKv95Q7>

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Chat with us: [LiveHelp](#) Call us: 1-800-4-CANCER (1-800-422-6237)

SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:

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This email was sent to candace.marshall@hhs.gov using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of:
National Cancer Institute - BG 9609 MSC 9760 - 9609 Medical Center Drive - Bethesda, MD 20892



Sender:	National Cancer Institute <nci@updates.cancer.gov>
Recipient:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/08/28 10:31:23
Delivered Date:	2017/08/28 10:32:11

From:	Evans, Syreeta (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=14BBE73E64904281A0A95445861AEC09-EVANS, SYRE>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Meeting with Nicole to discuss PCOS videos
Date:	2018/04/12 12:13:01
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Sorry meant to be for tomorrow. Thanks.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2018 12:09 PM
To: Evans, Syreeta (OS/OASH) <Syreeta.Evans@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Meeting with Nicole to discuss PCOS videos

Syreeta,

We have the SharePoint training at this time. Can we meet at another time?

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Evans, Syreeta (OS/OASH)
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2018 10:17 AM
To: Evans, Syreeta (OS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH)
Subject: Meeting with Nicole to discuss PCOS videos
When: Thursday, April 12, 2018 2:15 PM-2:45 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
Where: OWH conference room 727E

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, April 11, 2018 5:23 PM
To: Evans, Syreeta (OS/OASH) <Syreeta.Evans@hhs.gov>
Subject: Meeting with Nicole to discuss PCOS videos

Hi Syreeta!

Can you please set up a meeting with me and Nicole to review the videos below in the conference room? I telework Tuesdays and Friday but I will actually be in the office for a training on this Fri. morning so Friday around 1 pm may work.

Thanks!!
Candace

PCOS video:

The PCOS video is a short animated clip to explain PCOS and the symptoms. It will be used on social media to direct viewers to the OWH website and the fact sheet for more information on PCOS.

Link to Video: <https://vimeo.com/241719837/a59ee2d451>

Breastfeeding videos:

We have developed three videos to educate health professionals on the role that they can play in supporting moms who choose to breastfeed and OWH resources that can be used to support breastfeeding moms. The interviews feature three perspectives about breastfeeding and will be promoted on social media during National Breastfeeding Month in August.

Perspective 1: Health Provider – Dr. Michal Young tells her experiences working with new moms as a provider and how she provides support to mothers in the hospital and after returning home.

Link to video: <https://youtu.be/rykvMGL0D6U>

Perspective 2: New Mom- Maria Frausto talks about her choice to breastfeed and how her provider helped prepare her for the experience. She also talks about factors that can help make breastfeeding more successful after returning home such as family support.

Link to video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lv6-ZifOgKs>

Perspective 3: Hospital Support-Baby-Friendly USA representative Trish MacEnroe talks about what the term “baby-friendly” means and how the organization helps hospitals create a model breastfeeding program and obtain “baby-friendly” status. She also talks about the support and training that the clinical staff can receive at baby-friendly hospitals to help new moms who choose to breastfeed.

Link to video: <http://youtube.com/watch?v=AnEv6b9fT5A>

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Health Communications Specialist

OWH_logo_150

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200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

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Sent Date:	2018/04/12 12:13:00
Delivered Date:	2018/04/12 12:13:01

From:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Clearance of OWH videos on PCOS and Breastfeeding
Date:	2018/02/06 18:31:59
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

February 15. Does that work for your schedule?

Candace Marshall, MPH
Health Communications Specialist



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201
 Email: Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov
 Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-690-5414
 Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
 OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
 Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

From: Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2018 3:00 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Clearance of OWH videos on PCOS and Breastfeeding

Hi Candace,

When do you need this by?

Nicole Greene

Acting Director
Deputy Director



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: Nicole.Greene@hhs.gov
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Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
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Link to Video: <https://vimeo.com/241719837/a59ee2d451>

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Link to video: <https://youtu.be/rykvMGL0D6U>

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Perspective 3: Hospital Support-Baby-Friendly USA representative Trish MacEnroe talks about what the term “baby-friendly” means and how the organization helps hospitals create a model breastfeeding program and obtain “baby-friendly” status. She also talks about the support and training that the clinical staff can receive at baby-friendly hospitals to help new moms who choose to breastfeed.

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Candace

Candace Marshall, MPH
Health Communications Specialist



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Sender:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
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Sent Date:	2018/02/06 18:31:58
Delivered Date:	2018/02/06 18:31:59

To:	Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=66bf54ed301743d0b71473b5b9f57502-Greene, Nic>
CC:	Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39a84338d5c743fc9cd63a2fdaaefcdb-Bishop-Craw>
Subject:	RE: Clearance of OWH videos on PCOS and Breastfeeding
Date:	2018/02/06 15:06:46
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

They aren't critical

From: Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2018 3:00 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Clearance of OWH videos on PCOS and Breastfeeding

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Nicole Greene

Acting Director
Deputy Director



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Candace

Candace Marshall, MPH
Health Communications Specialist



OWH_logo_150

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Recipient:	Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=66bf54ed301743d0b71473b5b9f57502-Greene, Nic>; Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39a84338d5c743fc9cd63a2fdaaefcdb-Bishop-Craw>
Sent Date:	2018/02/06 15:06:48
Delivered Date:	2018/02/06 15:06:46
Message Flags:	Unsent

From:	ONC Health IT <onchealthit@service.govdelivery.com>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	Celebrating Nurses in Health IT During National Nurses Week
Date:	2017/05/09 14:07:37
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note



[HealthIT.gov Banner](#)

What's Happening in Health IT

IN THIS ISSUE

- [Celebrating National Nurses Week](#)
- [Patient Matching Algorithm Challenge Informational Webinars](#)

OTHER HEALTH IT HIGHLIGHTS

- [2017 Electronic Clinical Quality Measures \(eCQM\) Annual Update](#)
- [CMS: Accepting Measure Submissions for the Advancing Care Information Performance Category](#)

Celebrating National Nurses Week

It's National Nurses Week and ONC is celebrating the critical role that nurses play in supporting the health and health care of our nation. ONC's Chief Nursing Officer, Rebecca Freeman, examines how hospital nurses coordinate patient care and the importance of a comprehensive shared care plan. Learn more by reading the latest ONC blog post: [What Does The Comprehensive Shared Care Plan Mean For Nursing?](#)

Patient Matching Algorithm Challenge Informational Webinars

Register for tomorrow's [Patient Matching Algorithm Challenge Informational Webinar](#) that begins at 4pm ET. This webinar will provide details about the Patient Matching Algorithm Challenge we will be launching in June. Winning submissions will receive up to six cash prizes totaling \$75,000. If you miss this webinar, there will be two more on May 17 and May 24, 2017, both beginning at 4pm ET. [Visit the Patient Matching Algorithm Challenge website](#) to read more about the challenge.

OTHER HEALTH IT HIGHLIGHTS

2017 Electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQM) Annual Update

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) posted the 2017 annual update for Electronic Clinical Quality Measures (eCQMs) for CY 2018 reporting. These updated eCQMs are fully specified and will not be eligible for 2018 reporting unless and until they are proposed and finalized through notice-and-comment rulemaking for each applicable program. The updated measure specifications are available on the Electronic Clinical Quality Improvement (eCQI) Resource Center for [Eligible Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals](#) and [Eligible Professionals and Eligible Clinicians](#).

ONC will update its health IT certification program to reflect testing of the latest eCQM versions. For questions and comments regarding the updated measures, visit the [ONC CQM Issue Tracker](#).

CMS: Accepting Measure Submissions for the Advancing Care Information Performance Category

There's still time to identify and submit measures for the Advancing Care Information performance category of the Merit-based Incentive Payment System (MIPS). Submit your proposed measures using the [Advancing Care Information Submission Form](#) then send the form to CMSCallforMeasuresACI@ketchum.com before Friday, June 30, 2017. To learn more about the process for submitting measures, visit the CMS' [Call for Measures page](#) and review the [Call for Measures and Activities fact sheet](#).

[The Office of the National coordinator for Health Information Technology](#)

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Sender:	ONC Health IT < onchealthit@service.govdelivery.com >
Recipient:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/05/09 14:03:03

Delivered Date: 2017/05/09 14:07:37

From:	Office on Womens Health <owh@service.govdelivery.com>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	June Digest: News You Can Use
Date:	2017/06/28 09:03:59
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

OFFICE ON WOMEN'S HEALTH Health Professional Digest



Office on Women's Health Health Professional Digest

News You Can Use



Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

One in 10 women will develop PTSD in her lifetime. PTSD is common among women veterans, and it is not limited to those who have taken part in combat missions. You can offer support and treatment. If you are working with a patient with PTSD, ask if she is a veteran. The [Department of Veterans Affairs](#) offers information, tools, mobile apps, and resources to help assess PTSD and compare treatments.

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In Case You Missed It

If you missed the OWH Facebook Live event, Healthy Living for Women Veterans, watch it on [YouTube](#). This discussion raises awareness of health issues affecting women veterans and the mental health resources available to them. The panel features a representative from the Department

of Veterans Affairs, women veterans, and leaders in health care and mental health services for women veterans.

How Did You Observe National Women's Health Week (NWHW)?

Thank you for celebrating NWHW! Let us know how you and your colleagues helped women make their health a priority during #NWHW. Send your comments, stories, and pictures to Cheryl.Thompson@hhs.gov.

Tools and Resources for Patient Engagement

The [Printables and Shareables section](#) of the OWH website is now live! These tools and resources were designed to be easily downloaded, printed, and shared with patients to inform them about various health topics and encourage shared decision-making. The fact sheets, infographics, guides, videos, and webinars can be sorted by topic or publication type.

Continuing Professional Development

Only three sessions left! Are you looking for focused and concise webinars on women's health topics? Check out this series of educational webinars developed by the Region IX Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, called [WeBytes — 30-minute Webinars for the Busy Health Professional](#). Each session begins at 2 p.m. PT. Registration is not required. Upcoming topics include:

July 20, 2017 — Diversity in Clinical Trials

August 17, 2017 — Support for Nursing Moms at Work

September 7, 2017 — African-Americans and Breast Cancer

Funding Opportunity

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Sharp Rise in Opioid-related Hospital Stays Among Women

According to a new report from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, between 2005 and 2014, the national rate of opioid-related hospital stays increased substantially more for women (75%) than for men (55%), and by 2014, the rates were virtually identical (about 225 per 100,000 people). For additional information on opioids and women, read the [OWH White Paper: Opioid Use, Misuse, and Overdose in Women](#).

For more updates, follow OWH on [Twitter](#).

Volume 1, Issue 5

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- [Womenshealth.gov](#)  [Twitter](#)  [facebook](#)
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This email was sent to candace.marshall@hhs.gov using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: The Office on Women's Health (OWH) · 200 Independence Avenue · Washington, DC 20201 · 202-690-7650



Sender:	Office on Womens Health <owh@service.govdelivery.com>
Recipient:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/06/28 09:01:26
Delivered Date:	2017/06/28 09:03:59

From:	Office on Womens Health <owh@service.govdelivery.com>
To:	Thompson, Cheryl (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d177127087f34cc1834ed6e8eb9836dd-Thompson, C>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; <owh@palladianpartners.com>; <PNicastri@HagerSharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ac73a58ee24044bc98c4dd74e24d8740-Phenix, Adr>
Subject:	Courtesy Copy: June Digest: News You Can Use
Date:	2017/06/28 09:00:50
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

This is a courtesy copy of an email bulletin sent by Palladian Partners.

This bulletin was sent to the following groups of people:

Subscribers of The OWH Health Professional (30523 recipients)





1 in 10 women will develop PTSD in her lifetime.

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Sent Date:	2017/06/28 09:00:08
Delivered Date:	2017/06/28 09:00:50

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
CC:	Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>
Subject:	RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer
Date:	2017/10/18 15:20:14
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

OK, sounds good, thank you. My initial thought is that there might be times when it's appropriate to highlight the breastfeeding aspect of the call center and other times when we should officially include both aspects. I like maintaining the nomenclature that always uses "Helpline" rather than "Hotline" or "Call Center" since I think "Helpline" is most accurate/descriptive.

From: Elizabeth Osborn [mailto:eosborn@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 3:14 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Chuck Sebian-Lander
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

In the Your Guide, it's the National Breastfeeding Helpline. For USDA, we were just calling it the OWH Helpline, like it is on womenshealth.gov currently. I don't exactly know what "everything" is either, so I'll alert the team to this change and as we have questions, we'll make sure we ask.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 3:07 PM
To: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

No, I don't think you should change "everything" – but I say that without knowing exactly what "everything" is. What are you calling it now in the USDA materials? What do we call it in the Breastfeeding Guide?

From: Elizabeth Osborn [mailto:eosborn@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2017 3:05 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Chuck Sebian-Lander
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Hi Brooke,

I just want to confirm: should this be changed everywhere, across all materials?

HS actually works with USDA and we're building some language about the Helpline into one of their breastfeeding materials, so I'm evening wondering if we should be referring to it as the National Women's Health and Breastfeeding Helpline in that context.

Thanks!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 3:20 PM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Sorry – I forgot – Jenn wants to call the Call Center the “National Women’s Health and Breastfeeding Helpline” rather than the way I have it titled below.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 3:19 PM
To: 'Chuck Sebian-Lander'
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) (Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

I got Jenn’s approval on the final Mega-Menu and Fat Footer with some final tweaks. Please let me know what you think the timeline is for all of this so I can let her know ☺

- Please permanently remove Chronic Fatigue Syndrome from the Popular topics on both the Mega-Menu and the Fat Footer. If this isn’t possible please let me know. Another option would be to rename that fact sheet Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS) which is what I was trying to avoid.
- In the Fat Footer – Please add [Health Information Gateway](#) to the Programs and Activities list.
- In the Fat Footer – I realize that the family planning health center finder tool is technically a “.com” property, but it’s really a .gov – can you take the external website icon off?
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Below is the new page text for the Call Center page and the Social Media page. We can make edits if this text is not suitable. Please let me know.

The Call Center page and the Social Media page should live somewhere under Programs and Activities, but they do not have to be in the left-nav for that section.

The Call Center page should be the destination for the “Get breastfeeding help” link in the Fat Footer.

The Social Media page should be the destination for the “Social media” link under Stay Connected in the Fat Footer.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Page Title: Connect with us on Social Media

Body Text:

Get the most up to date women’s and girls’ health information on any device by following us on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, and YouTube.

Join the conversation on Facebook at www.facebook.com/hhsowh. Catch up with our women’s health information, videos, and blog posts.

Check out recent women’s health information on Twitter at www.twitter.com/womenshealth or at www.twitter.com/saluddlamujer for information in Spanish.

Girls can get for fun tips, quizzes, and girl’s health information on Twitter at www.twitter.com/girlshealth. Parents and teachers might be interested too!

For your favorite healthy inspirational tips and images for women and girls, follow us and save our pins on Pinterest at www.pinterest.com/womenshealth.

Subscribe to our YouTube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/user/WomensHealthgov> to watch our videos containing expert interviews and personal stories on breastfeeding, HIV/AIDS, women veteran’s health, healthy living and much more!

Page Title: Women’s Health and National Breastfeeding Helpline

Body Text:

Do you have a women’s health question or trouble with breastfeeding? Call us anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. ET from Monday through Friday at 1-800-994-9662 to talk with a health information specialist in English or Spanish.

Our women’s health information specialists who answer the phone are also trained as breastfeeding peer counselors. You can call us for free, as many times as you need to!

Here are some questions we often hear:

- Why is my period irregular?
- What can I do about cramps?
- How can I increase my breastmilk supply?
- How do I know my baby is getting enough to eat during breastfeeding?
- How do I know if I am starting menopause?
- I have a health problem and don’t know if I should call my doctor.

Call us today at 1-800-994-9662 to get answers to your questions or for breastfeeding support.

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 04, 2017 9:13 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)

Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com)

Subject: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Hi Brooke,

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- The Printables & Shareables and About Us sections now include links to take a user to the landing pages for those specific sections.
- Plus and minus symbols now appear correctly as you expand/collapse content on mobile.

You can see the updated version of the Mega Menu and Fat Footer from this preview link to the homepage: <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/>

If you have any further questions or concerns, let me know.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>
Sent Date:	2017/10/18 15:20:13
Delivered Date:	2017/10/18 15:20:14

From:	National Cancer Institute <nci@updates.cancer.gov>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	Twitter Top News from NCI
Date:	2017/04/06 10:33:18
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note



National Cancer Institute

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You are subscribed to Twitter Top News from the National Cancer Institute. See the latest tweets below.



National Cancer Inst theNCI

06 Apr

@theNCI
icon

In this short video, NCI Acting Director Dr. Doug Lowy discusses NCI's funding of #cancerresearch: <https://t.co/ek82NaWZcU>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



NCI Media Relations NCIMedia

06 Apr

@NCIMedia
icon

Dr Hisataka Kobayashi of @theNCI @NCIResearchCtr Molecular Imaging Program discusses photoimmunotherapy for upcomin... <https://t.co/vvUAFgN8VG>

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

106 Apr

@theNCI
icon

Understanding "chemobrain" and cognitive impairment after treatment for cancer: <https://t.co/qKsEcf1gRG...>
<https://t.co/lHulQZALjm>

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NCI Media Relations NCIMedia

106 Apr

@NCIMedia
icon

Keynote speech this morning by @NCIDrDoug on #HPV, Cancer Genes, and Raising Expectations #IFCPC2017...
<https://t.co/9getTnrN6h>

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

106 Apr

@theNCI
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RT @NCIDrDoug: #HPV, #Cancer Genes, and Raising Expectations, my keynote 8:00 am IFCPC 2017 World Congress on Cervical Pathology and Colpos...

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

106 Apr

@theNCI
icon

Do you have questions about bone marrow transplantation? Our fact sheet has answers: <https://t.co/RcxOrj2wDm>
<https://t.co/Uq4MNesMxa>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



National Cancer Inst theNCI

05 Apr

@theNCI
icon

Cancer research is a vast, complex enterprise that involves researchers from many different disciplines:... <https://t.co/YiaIfJttCI>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



National Cancer Inst theNCI

05 Apr

@theNCI
icon

RT @NCICancerStats: Cancer Prevalence and Cost of Care Projections Website: <https://t.co/GZTg0D6aHo>
<https://t.co/iEFxl6zKMx>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



National Cancer Inst theNCI

05 Apr

@theNCI
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RT @NCICancerStats: Cancer survival rates can vary by race/ethnicity/state bc of bio differences, SES, and healthcare access <https://t.co/h...>

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05 Apr

@theNCI
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RT @NCIResearchCtr: CCR scientists tease out mechanisms of immune cell communication #CCRAAdvance
<https://t.co/5yEAos3CUD> <https://t.co/FSuyJ...>

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05 Apr

NATIONAL

New study reported on by @guardian highlights importance of mental health considerations for cancer patients
<https://t.co/OJSLN4ESkl>

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RT @AACR: #AACR17 program chair Dr. Kornelia Polyak discusses "Basic science and translational implications" at today's closing plenary ses...

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NCI Media Relations NCIMedia

05 Apr

@NCI
NCIMedia
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Concern not only about use of e-cigarettes but also youth exposure to secondhand smoke <https://t.co/Yqx9QpSlao>
@CDCgov @CDCTobaccoFree

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National Cancer Inst theNCI

05 Apr

@theNCI
icon

What is the role of basic research in progress against cancer? NCI's Dr. Doug Lowy explains:... <https://t.co/iGhropANan>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



NCI Media Relations NCIMedia

05 Apr

@NCI
NCIMedia
icon

Concerns about impact on impressionable youth of seeing smoking in movies <https://t.co/Pir8CioNAJ>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



NCI Media Relations NCIMedia

05 Apr

Dr Thomas Uldrick @NCIResearchCtr HIV and AIDS Malignancy Branch helping research and treat rare Castleman disease
<https://t.co/vlb5cPg0kg>

[Details](#) | [Retweet](#)



National Cancer Inst theNCI

05 Apr

@theNCI
icon

RT @NCICancerTrials: New clinical trial opens to provide evaluation, tumor profiling and follow-up of patients with gastric tumors: [https://...](#)

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This email was sent to candace.marshall@hhs.gov using GovDelivery, on behalf of: National Cancer Institute
BG 9609 MSC 9760 · 9609 Medical Center Drive · Bethesda, MD 20892



Powered by
GovDelivery

Sender:	National Cancer Institute < nci@updates.cancer.gov >
Recipient:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/04/06 10:32:42

Delivered Date: 2017/04/06 10:33:18
--

From:	Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; owh1 <owh@palladianpartners.com>
CC:	Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Pls update broke FDA power morcellator link
Date:	2018/02/15 14:37:46
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Brooke,

We'll have these updates made to the page by tomorrow.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov]
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 2:35 PM
To: owh1 <owh@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay

(LSalay@hagersharp.com) <LSalay@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: Pls update broke FDA power morcellator link

In reviewing the proposed outline for the update to the hysterectomy fact sheet I noticed that the FDA has updated their website link to the information about power morcellators. Since you need to update the link, I'd also like to update the text in that call out box since it might not be considered "recent" any more. Here's what I'd like the call out box to say, with the new link:

FDA warns against power morcellators in treatment for uterine fibroids

If your doctor recommends a hysterectomy or myomectomy to treat uterine fibroids, ask your doctor if a power morcellator will be used. Power morcellators break uterine fibroids into small pieces to remove them more easily during a laproscopic surgery. The [FDA warns health care providers against using laparoscopic power morcellators](#) in surgery for uterine fibroids or gynecologic cancers. This is because uterine tissue may contain undiagnosed or hidden cancer. While breaking up the uterine tissue, power morcellators can spread an undiagnosed or hidden cancer to other parts of the body. This can make your chance for long-term survival, without cancer, much lower. Most uterine fibroids are not cancerous, but there is no way to know for sure until all of the fibroids are removed and tested.

Also, in the question "What are some alternatives to hysterectomy?", can you make this edit to insert the link and delete the reference to the call out box?

- **Surgery to remove uterine fibroids without removing the uterus.** This is called a myomectomy. Depending on the location of your fibroids, the myomectomy can be done through the pelvic area or through the vagina and cervix. You may be able to get pregnant after this surgery. If your doctor recommends this surgery, ask your doctor if a power morecellator will be used. The [FDA has warned against the use of power morcellators](#) for most women. ~~See the box on this page to learn more.~~

Thanks!

Brooke Leggin, MPH
Web Manager



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Mail to: 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201
Office location: 330 C St., S.W., Room 6042A, Washington, DC 20024
E-mail: brooke.leggin@hhs.gov
Work Hours: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm ET
Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: M, Th, F 202-205-2373 T, W 301-864-2607

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
 OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
 Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; owh1 <owh@palladianpartners.com>; Tara Rodgers <TRodgers@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Lauren Salay (LSalay@hagerssharp.com) <LSalay@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2018/02/15 14:37:06
Delivered Date:	2018/02/15 14:37:46

From:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer
Date:	2017/10/17 15:28:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Yay!!

I can't wait to see the final pages.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 3:21 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

You have no idea. This is the culmination of five years of work. Five. Years.

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Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 3:21 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Fancy 😊

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Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 3:20 PM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
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The Social Media page should be the destination for the “Social media” link under Stay Connected in the Fat Footer.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Page Title: Connect with us on Social Media

Body Text:

Get the most up to date women's and girls' health information on any device by following us on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, and YouTube.

Join the conversation on Facebook at www.facebook.com/hhsowh. Catch up with our women's health information, videos, and blog posts.

Check out recent women's health information on Twitter at www.twitter.com/womenshealth or at www.twitter.com/saluddlamujer for information in Spanish.

Girls can get for fun tips, quizzes, and girl's health information on Twitter at www.twitter.com/girlshealth. Parents and teachers might be interested too!

For your favorite healthy inspirational tips and images for women and girls, follow us and save our pins on Pinterest at www.pinterest.com/womenshealth.

Subscribe to our YouTube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/user/WomensHealthgov> to watch our videos containing expert interviews and personal stories on breastfeeding, HIV/AIDS, women veteran's health, healthy living and much more!

Page Title: Women's Health and National Breastfeeding Helpline

Body Text:

Do you have a women's health question or trouble with breastfeeding? Call us anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. ET from Monday through Friday at 1-800-994-9662 to talk with a health information specialist in English or Spanish.

Our women's health information specialists who answer the phone are also trained as breastfeeding peer counselors. You can call us for free, as many times as you need to!

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- How can I increase my breastmilk supply?
- How do I know my baby is getting enough to eat during breastfeeding?
- How do I know if I am starting menopause?
- I have a health problem and don't know if I should call my doctor.

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From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 04, 2017 9:13 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)

Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com)

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- Plus and minus symbols now appear correctly as you expand/collapse content on mobile.

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If you have any further questions or concerns, let me know.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

Sender:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4FC8BD26D02246A09DA4FDA0B896D46F-MARSHALL, C>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2017/10/17 15:28:14
Delivered Date:	2017/10/17 15:28:00

To:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
Subject:	RE: OWH in the News
Date:	2018/03/21 12:41:07
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

I'm not planning to respond to the tweets right now because I don't have any guidance on how we are responding. I only knew about this because I saw it on social media. :-/
Are you responding to specific questions or providing a larger statement?

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2018 12:34 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: OWH in the News

Yes, this Politico reporter contacted us. We were involved but the article is not accurate. Will we respond to some of these tweets? I find it a missed opportunity if we don't but not sure how we go about that.

The ASH still has time to use your tweets. It's only been a week!

Me

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2018 12:05 PM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: RE: OWH in the News

I sent her an article that I saw this morning and told her that I would monitor.
This is part of what I would do at CDC when they were in the news but with greater detail because we had other monitoring tools.

I am working on the tweets now. I notice that he didn't really use what I sent over. I think 1 tweet that he modified. :-/

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2018 12:02 PM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: OWH in the News

Thank you. Did Jenn ask you to monitor?

Also, are you working today? Just want to know if I can expect tweets for the ASH.

Thank you,

Me

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2018 11:54 AM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Cc: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: OWH in the News

Jenn,

Here is a snapshot of what I'm seeing on social media. The largest number of retweets of the articles is 10 so there's not a lot of activity. I'll continue to monitor throughout the day.
Candace

OWH in the News March 21

Articles

Here are the major news articles observed online:

- <https://www.politico.com/story/2018/03/21/hhs-strips-lesbian-bisexual-health-content-from-womens-health-website-430123>
- <https://sunlightfoundation.com/2018/03/21/federal-womens-health-office-observes-lesbian-and-bisexual-fact-sheet-online/>

Social Media

Here are the tweets that are being shared across social media:

Politico Pro

<https://twitter.com/POLITICOPro/status/976454632997302272>

-
Politico Pro is an arm of Politico news outlet that shares emerging news affecting policy.

Twitter Handle: @POLITICOPro

Twitter Followers: 16.9K

Sun Foundation

<https://twitter.com/SunFoundation/status/976473632384876544>

<https://twitter.com/SunFoundation/status/976472090944724992>

The Sun Foundation is a national, nonpartisan nonprofit organization that advocates for open government.

Twitter Handle: @SunFoundation

Twitter Followers: 73.7K

Sunlight Web Integrity Foundation

<https://twitter.com/SunWebIntegrity/status/976471060018270208>

Team of Sun Foundation that investigates changes in public info and access to Web resources.

Twitter Handle: @SunFoundation

Twitter Followers: 140

Other Tweets

Marissa D. Barrera: <https://twitter.com/mdb2/status/976455418070339584>

Candace Marshall, MPH
Health Communications Specialist



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201
Email: Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov
Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-690-5414
Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Recipient:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>
Sent Date:	2018/03/21 12:38:53
Delivered Date:	2018/03/21 12:41:07
Message Flags:	Unsent

To:	OWHPA </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=441561e101964830828cf603df2be641-OWHPA>; Vignier, Marline (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=70701dabd8814d48a99fbd037010ebfd-Vignier, Ma>
Subject:	[SHARE with OWHPA Grantees] Opioid-Related Resources
Date:	2018/05/07 14:59:31
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Happy Monday everyone!!

The Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships shared some opioid-related resources today that be of interest to the OWHPA grantees. Please share this email with your grantees and colleagues.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

This Week's Twitter Chat [#Aid4YouthMH](#) **Resources for Faith Leaders**

Join us on **Tuesday, May 8 at 2 p.m. ET** for a timely and informed conversation with key faith leaders from around the nation. They will discuss how to appropriately address the growing mental health challenges among today's youth, and are open to answering your questions. Use the hashtag [#Aid4YouthMH](#) to join in the conversation.

Please note! [Children's Mental Health Awareness Day](#) is May 10. Look for [a local event](#) to participate in near you!

Next Week's Webinar! [Getting Back to Work: Employment, Recovery, and the Opioid Epidemic](#)

Wed., May 16, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. ET, Register [here](#).

The Office of the U.S. Surgeon General is focused on the intersection between health and the economy for good reason. Businesses thrive by investing in the health of their employees and communities and the recovery of individuals, and their families is strengthened by gainful employment and self-sufficiency. Join the HHS Partnership Center and hear directly from the nation's **Surgeon General VADM Jerome M. Adams, M.D., M.P.H.** about the value of employment and supporting employees in the nation's recovery from the opioid epidemic. We'll also hear from **Charles Collins, President and CEO** of the [YMCA of San Francisco](#), on the Y's comprehensive approach to workforce development, as well as from **Pastor Travis Lowe, Crossroads Church in Bluefield, West Virginia, on collaborative efforts between faith leaders and local businesses inspiring entrepreneurship, hope, and healing in their community.**

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

Consumer Advisory: Older Adults and Medication Safety

Older Adults and Medication Safety is part of the Eldercare Locator's Critical Conversations series of fact sheets, which address emerging topics and important issues impacting the health and well-being of older adults. It is a new fact sheet for the [Eldercare Locator website](#) on medication safety and older adults with a special section on opioids. This project is supported, in part, by the ACL.

GRANTS

New USDA Funding Available to Support Projects that Address Opioid Misuse in Rural Communities

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is giving funding priority in two key grant programs to address opioid misuse in rural communities.* You can also view a recording of their [outreach webinar](#), originally held on April 23, 2018, to get an overview of how USDA Rural Development is prioritizing investments.

- Community Facilities Program Grants: USDA reserved \$5 million in grants for innovative projects that address the opioid crisis in rural America. Rural communities, nonprofit organizations, and federally recognized tribes can apply for up to \$150,000 in grants for innovative projects, such as mobile treatment clinics. The grants can be used to fund up to 75 percent of a project's cost. *Application Deadline: June 4, 2018*
- Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants: USDA will give priority to applications for projects to provide opioid misuse prevention, treatment, or recovery services. Congress has set aside \$20 million for Distance Learning and Telemedicine grants specifically for opioid prevention, treatment and recovery projects. Eligible proposals can receive 10 priority points. *Application Deadline: June 4, 2018*

*Also see that USDA has [launched a webpage](#) dedicated to the opioid epidemic to help rural leaders find information about USDA programs and how to apply.

Community Collaborations to Strengthen and Preserve Families

HHS-2018-ACF-ACYF-CA-1351

The purpose of this funding opportunity (FOA) announcement is to fund five-year demonstration projects that support the development, implementation, and evaluation of strategies that embrace proactive efforts to build on the strengths of families, including those at high risk for child maltreatment. The projects will enhance the capacity of communities to address the well-being

needs of families before more formal strategies, practices, or activities are warranted. Read the FOA for additional information.

Recipient:	OWHPA </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=441561e101964830828cf603df2be641-OWHPA>; Vignier, Marline (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=70701dabd8814d48a99fbd037010ebfd-Vignier, Ma>
Sent Date:	2018/05/07 14:43:26
Delivered Date:	2018/05/07 14:59:31
Message Flags:	Unsent

To:	Thompson, Cheryl (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d177127087f34cc1834ed6e8eb9836dd-Thompson, C>; Douglas, Tracie (OS/OASH) (CTR) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92a27b18b92c4533bb0b4fd7f8b3c28c-Douglas, Tr>
Subject:	FW: This Week: HHS Community Health News May 7-11, 2018
Date:	2018/05/07 14:15:22
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

This email came out today from the Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships. There are a couple of opioid-related activities that may be of interest to the OWHPA grantees.

From: Christensen, Heidi (HHS/CFBNP)
Sent: Monday, May 07, 2018 11:58 AM
To: OS Partnerships (HHS/OS) <Partnerships@hhs.gov>
Subject: This Week: HHS Community Health News May 7-11, 2018

Friends, Please don't miss the timely deadlines on the [grants available from the USDA](#) noted below. And, as always, please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or with a request for additional information on any of the news items, program listings, or resources included in this weekly email.

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HHS COMMUNITY HEALTH NEWS

[All of Us Research Program](#)

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has begun national enrollment in their [All of Us Research Program](#)-- a large scale effort to advance individualized prevention, treatment, and care for people of all backgrounds, with an overall aim to enroll one million or more volunteers. "*All of Us* is an ambitious project that has the potential to revolutionize how we study disease and medicine," Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar said. "NIH's unprecedented effort will lay the scientific foundation for a new era of personalized, highly effective health care. We look forward to working with people of all backgrounds to take this major step forward for our nation's health." Get more details [here](#).

[New CDC Vital Signs Report: Illnesses from Mosquito, Tick, and Flea Bites Increasing in the US](#)

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)'s latest *Vital Signs* reports that the number of illnesses from tick, mosquito, and flea bites has more than tripled in the US, with more than 640,000 cases reported from 2004 through 2016. [Catch up](#) on what the CDC, states and you can do to detect and respond to these diseases and control the mosquitoes, ticks, and fleas that spread them.

[New Medicare cards to beneficiaries in Delaware, DC, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia](#)

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) announced the mailing of new Medicare cards to beneficiaries in Delaware, DC, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. To view updates, beneficiary and stakeholder resources, visit CMS's [Outreach & Education](#) page.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HEALTH WEEK – May 13-19

[National Women's Health Week Toolkit](#)

During National Women's Health Week (#NWHW), millions of women take steps to make their health a priority and build positive health habits for life. The 19th annual #NWHW kicks off on Mother's Day, May 13, and is celebrated through May 19, 2018. Use the [toolkit](#) to promote and support the women in your

community to lead long and healthy lives. #NWHW is an initiative of the HHS Office of Women's Health.

Important Things You May Not Know About Women's Health

You may be surprised to learn about some health issues that affect millions of women or girls each year. Check this [web-based resource](#) from the CDC about some of them and what you can do. As an example:

- **Asthma** occurs [more often](#) in women than men (but more often in boys than girls). Older adults, women, and African Americans are [more likely to die due to asthma](#).
- About 27 million women in the U.S. are living with a **disability**, a condition of the body or mind that makes it more difficult to do certain activities and interact with the world around them. The most common cause of disability for women is [arthritis](#) or rheumatism.
- The number of **overdose deaths from opioids** among women has increased substantially. [Women are more likely](#) to have chronic pain, be prescribed opioid pain relievers, and use them for longer time periods than men.

[Sign up](#) for the CDC's *Health Matters for Women* newsletter

[See their website](#) *Women's Health and Safety* for additional resources and timely information.

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

May is [Older Americans Month](#) and the HHS Administration on Community Living (ACL) had developed 2018 resources to *Engage at Every Age*-- a theme that emphasizes that we are never too old (or young) to take part in activities that can enrich our physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

Consumer Advisory: Older Adults and Medication Safety

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Tips for Seniors from the FDA

As we age, being an educated consumer of medications becomes more and more critical. It is important to be aware that the increased use of medicines and normal body changes caused by aging can increase the chance of unwanted or maybe even harmful drug interactions. Here are [a few tips and guidelines](#) from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

GRANTS

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*Also see that USDA has [launched a webpage](#) dedicated to the opioid epidemic to help rural leaders find information about USDA programs and how to apply.

Community Collaborations to Strengthen and Preserve Families **HHS-2018-ACF-ACYF-CA-1351**

The purpose of this funding opportunity (FOA) announcement is to fund five-year demonstration projects that support the development, implementation, and evaluation of strategies that embrace proactive efforts to build on the strengths of families, including those at high risk for child maltreatment. The projects will enhance the capacity of communities to address the well-being needs of families before more formal strategies, practices, or activities are warranted. Read the FOA for additional information.

With great and many thanks for all you do to support the health and wellness of communities around the country! Heidi and the Partnership Center team

Heidi Christensen, Public Affairs Specialist
Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships/IEA/OS

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Ave. SW, Washington D.C. 20201
(202) 358-3595, @PartnersforGood

Recipient:	Thompson, Cheryl (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d177127087f34cc1834ed6e8eb9836dd-Thompson, C>; Douglas, Tracie (OS/OASH) (CTR) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=92a27b18b92c4533bb0b4fd7f8b3c28c-Douglas, Tr>
Sent Date:	2018/05/07 14:11:27
Delivered Date:	2018/05/07 14:15:22
Message Flags:	Unsent

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer
Date:	2017/10/20 14:12:23
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note



From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2017 1:58 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Cool!!!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2017 1:56 PM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Sounds amazing. Thank you.

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2017 1:48 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Hi Brooke,

All of the immediate changes you noted have been made. Let us know if there's anything else; otherwise, we'll prepare to launch the Mega Menu early next week.

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2017 10:50 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Thanks, Brooke. We'll work on making the immediate tweaks now; I'll let you know when they've been implemented.

We can definitely discuss a more robust look and feel for the social media page. That NWGHAAD page uses a modified version of our pre-existing two-column template; we could try something similar.

Adding the "1-" should be easy, though we'll want to test to ensure that adding the extra length to that line doesn't break formatting on any browsers or mobile devices. We'll add a task to our development queue to get it done.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com
w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2017 10:31 AM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>

Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Thanks Chuck, this is very exciting. There are just a few tweaks to make before launch. And then Candace and I had some asks for the future around improving the look-and-feel of the social media page.

For the immediate:

- • The Top level navigation looks great. Thank you so much.
- • The new pages (call center and social media) look great. Thank you so much.
- • In the fat footer Programs and Activities list why is Health Information Gateway at the bottom of the list and not in alpha order like the rest?
- • Chronic fatigue needs to be removed from the Popular topics on the fat footer – Chronic fatigue should never appear in any popular topic list anywhere, ever.
- • In the fat footer Get help list, the only link that does not open in a new tab/window is the Get help with family planning link. Can you make that one like the rest?

To please put into the design queue, is there a different template we could use in the future for the social media page? We'd like to incorporate some images and the designed social media icons (like the ones in the About Us PowerPoint template) in the appropriate places. Ideally we'd have at least 3 images on the page – a woman, a teen, and a health professional all using a laptop or mobile device – so we can speak to all of our target audiences. A banner or combined image is fine too. I'm not sure if it's a template or its own type of page, but we like the layout of the Resources page in NWGHAAD at <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/nwghaad/resources>. We can talk more at a Content Strategy meeting in the future if that's helpful.

Also for the future, not now, would it be possible to put the "1" on the 1-800 number in the header? I'd like it to be consistent with our new call center page.

Thank you!
Brooke

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2017 9:16 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Hi Brooke,

The edits you've requested have been made on our staging environment and should be ready for a final look and approval: <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/>

For specific reference, here are links to the two new pages added to the footer:

- <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/about-us/what-we-do/programs-and-activities/social-media>
- <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/about-us/what-we-do/programs-and-activities/helpline>

Once we have approval to launch, we'll work on getting you a concrete timeframe for when to expect the Mega Menu to go live. It should be a relatively quick turnaround.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander

Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 3:45 PM

To: 'Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)' <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>

Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Hi Brooke—all of this should be doable, hopefully to be ready for a final review and sign-off by COB tomorrow. I'll keep you posted.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 3:20 PM

To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>

Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Sorry – I forgot – Jenn wants to call the Call Center the “National Women’s Health and Breastfeeding Helpline” rather than the way I have it titled below.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2017 3:19 PM
To: 'Chuck Sebian-Lander'
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) (Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

I got Jenn’s approval on the final Mega-Menu and Fat Footer with some final tweaks. Please let me know what you think the timeline is for all of this so I can let her know 😊

- Please permanently remove Chronic Fatigue Syndrome from the Popular topics on both the Mega-Menu and the Fat Footer. If this isn’t possible please let me know. Another option would be to rename that fact sheet Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS) which is what I was trying to avoid.
- In the Fat Footer – Please add [Health Information Gateway](#) to the Programs and Activities list.
- In the Fat Footer – I realize that the family planning health center finder tool is technically a “.com” property, but it’s really a .gov – can you take the external website icon off?
- In the Fat Footer – Does the header “Stay connected” have to be hyperlinked? Can it just be text that doesn’t go anywhere, even on the desktop view?
- In the Fat Footer – can the link for “Media inquiries” go directly to <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/contact-us/email/> since we have a subject line already for Press and media inquiries?

Below is the new page text for the Call Center page and the Social Media page. We can make edits if this text is not suitable. Please let me know.

The Call Center page and the Social Media page should live somewhere under Programs and Activities, but they do not have to be in the left-nav for that section.

The Call Center page should be the destination for the “Get breastfeeding help” link in the Fat Footer.

The Social Media page should be the destination for the “Social media” link under Stay Connected in the Fat Footer.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Page Title: Connect with us on Social Media

Body Text:

Get the most up to date women’s and girls’ health information on any device by following us on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, and YouTube.

Join the conversation on Facebook at www.facebook.com/hhsowh. Catch up with our women’s health information, videos, and blog posts.

Check out recent women’s health information on Twitter at www.twitter.com/womenshealth or at www.twitter.com/saluddlamujer for information in Spanish.

Girls can get for fun tips, quizzes, and girl's health information on Twitter at www.twitter.com/girlshealth. Parents and teachers might be interested too! For your favorite healthy inspirational tips and images for women and girls, follow us and save our pins on Pinterest at www.pinterest.com/womenshealth. Subscribe to our YouTube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/user/WomensHealthgov> to watch our videos containing expert interviews and personal stories on breastfeeding, HIV/AIDS, women veteran's health, healthy living and much more!

Page Title: Women's Health and National Breastfeeding Helpline

Body Text:

Do you have a women's health question or trouble with breastfeeding? Call us anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. ET from Monday through Friday at 1-800-994-9662 to talk with a health information specialist in English or Spanish.

Our women's health information specialists who answer the phone are also trained as breastfeeding peer counselors. You can call us for free, as many times as you need to!

Here are some questions we often hear:

- Why is my period irregular?
- What can I do about cramps?
- How can I increase my breastmilk supply?
- How do I know my baby is getting enough to eat during breastfeeding?
- How do I know if I am starting menopause?
- I have a health problem and don't know if I should call my doctor.

Call us today at 1-800-994-9662 to get answers to your questions or for breastfeeding support.

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Wednesday, October 04, 2017 9:13 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)

Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com)

Subject: For review: Updated Mega Menu and Fat Footer

Hi Brooke,

We've updated the Mega Menu and Fat Footer to address some specific issues and feedback. Notably:

- The Fat Footer is now using the dark purple background.
- The Printables & Shareables and About Us sections now include links to take a user to the landing pages for those specific sections.
- Plus and minus symbols now appear correctly as you expand/collapse content on mobile.

You can see the updated version of the Mega Menu and Fat Footer from this preview link to the homepage: <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/>

If you have any further questions or concerns, let me know.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/10/20 14:12:21
Delivered Date:	2017/10/20 14:12:23

From:	Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
CC:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com) <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Subject:	RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...
Date:	2017/03/03 11:11:07
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Happy Friday, everyone! ☺

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 11:09 AM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com) <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Awesome! Thanks so much for the heads up! It's so great to see all of this coming to fruition.

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com]
Sent: Friday, March 03, 2017 11:07 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Emily Dammeyer; Sheryl Rhoads
Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Hi Brooke,

The migrated Fitness and Nutrition section is now live: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/fitness-and-nutrition>

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, February 24, 2017 4:20 PM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Darcy Sawatzki
<dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com> <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
<Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl
Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

This is approved – I just have one change we need to make as below. Thanks.

On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health#7> under Heart Healthy Eating we need to change “5” to “4” for stroke now being the 4th leading killer of women.

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 11:55 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com)
Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Hi Brooke,

I just wanted to check in about this review and whether you had any additional questions or concerns. Just let me know.

Thanks!

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

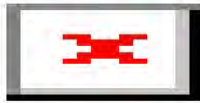
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e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

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cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2017 8:49 AM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Darcy Sawatzki
<dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com> <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Thanks Chuck, I look forward to reviewing this content!

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2017 8:35 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Hi Brooke,

We've finished an editorial review and extra round of QC on the Fitness and Nutrition section, and it's now properly ready for your final review:

<http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition>

As we discussed, moving forward, that extra editorial QC will be part of our internal process *before* you see any future migrated content.

Let me know if you have any other questions.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

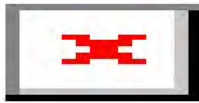
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e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2017 1:30 PM

To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>

Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Hi Chuck,

I'm only about halfway through reviewing this content and trying not to get frustrated – but thought maybe it was more efficient for me to reach out to you directly. There are several links that don't work or go to incorrect places. The one that made me reach out to you are the hyperlinks to glossary terms on the page at <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-be-active-health> - it just looks like there was a mistake in putting the URL in and the "fitness-and-nutrition" part of the URL should not be there. So all of those glossary term links go to an error page.

The list below is the list I've started already– but I'm frustrated by the amount of time this is taking me to correct basic things that someone else could have done. I don't mind being the person to indicate where a broken link should be changed, but everything else that is a programming error could be taken care of by someone else on the team. I want it to be part of the SOP for the migration that if there is a broken link you either bring it to my attention before or after I review the migrated content – I don't want to be the person whose job it is to click on every single link on every single page to make sure it works. I'd like someone to do that before you send me the content for review.

I'm sure some of the things below are an artifact of the test site, but many are not. Please feel free to call me if it's easier, but let me know what a good next step would be. Thanks.

Brooke

- On the page at <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/nutrition-basics> under the Minerals question in the Sodium row there is a link to Reducing Your Sodium that should go to the page at <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> or we should delete that reference if it's not possible to link to the specific question on that page about reducing your sodium.
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> under the first question, Eating for health, most of the anchor links were wonky on my computer – taking me to question further down in the list than intended.

- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> under the Heart healthy eating question, the glossary link for “stroke” goes to the glossary entry for heart disease instead of the entry for stroke.
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> under the Nutrition Facts Label question, the link to the text-only food label does not work.
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> under the How to find nutrient content of foods that do not have labels question, the last hyperlink to the Nutrient Lists should be updated to <https://www.ars.usda.gov/northeast-area/beltsville-md/beltsville-human-nutrition-research-center/nutrient-data-laboratory/docs/usda-national-nutrient-database-for-standard-reference/>.
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> under the Reducing and limiting your sodium question, please delete the last sentence: “Also, check out the Potassium page in the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Nutrient Lists.” since I cannot find an equivalent and they don’t seem to have that page any longer.
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> under the Healthy recipes question, please delete the first bullet since the link does not work:
 - [Delicious Decisions \(Copyright © American Heart Association\)\(link is external\)](#) — Search this database of recipes that are good for your heart! This website also provides information to help you make heart-healthy choices when eating out and at the supermarket
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> under the Should I take vitamin and mineral supplements question, the link to the folic acid fact sheet in the first bullet does not work – I’m not sure about the redirect on the test site, but can you just make sure it works once you publish? Thanks.
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> under the More information on eating healthy question, I think you can safely remove the “link is external” text where that appears because you have the icon which I think is sufficient. I don’t recall that text being elsewhere on the site.
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/special-food-issues> under the Dealing with lactose intolerance question, the hyperlink for our “foods rich in calcium” resulted in a 404 error page. Can you fix that?
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/special-food-issues> under the Vegetarian eating question, those anchor links at the beginning to various terms/minerals/vitamins – the first one (protein) worked correctly, but the others (iron, zinc, etc.) did not lead to an expanded question when I opened them all in a new Tab. Am I doing something wrong? So throughout this section the hyperlink to iron leads to a collapsed question but the hyperlink to protein leads to an expanded question (and the correct one). Why are they different?
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/special-food-issues> under the Vegetarian eating question in the sentence that comes after the three bullets the first hyperlink for calcium seems to be linked to a section on B12 instead. Can you fix it?
-

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2017 9:50 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Sheryl Rhoads; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagersharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann

(HHS/OASH)

Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Hi Brooke,

The migrated Fitness and Nutrition section is now ready for your review:

<http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition>

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2017 9:13 AM

To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>

Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads

<SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com)

<dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Thanks Chuck, option 1 is fine.

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2017 9:12 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Sheryl Rhoads; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)

Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Hi Brooke,

Attached are a few more photo options for the Special Issues section. Let me know if any of these match your preference.

The rest of the migrated pages will be ready for you to review today.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

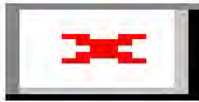
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cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 3:49 PM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com) <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Here are my choices for the photos – except for the Special Issues section. I'd prefer a photo that somehow indicates a food allergy or intolerance/concern –that section is about allergies, lactose intolerance, gluten/celiac, etc. The ones proposed are all very generic. Thanks.

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 3:12 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Sheryl Rhoads; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Hi Brooke,

Attached is a PDF for your review/approval of photo choices for the migration of the old Fitness and Nutrition section. You'll notice there are a lot fewer pages listed here than are on the current site; that's because a number of sub-pages have been consolidated into their parent page. Let me know if you have any specific questions about that.

I also have two additional pages to migrate into Drupal, with your approval: the glossary and the Federal reports page. These are both linked to prominently enough (the glossary within both old and new health content areas, the federal reports page via the About Us link) that I think it will help our current mobile experience to move these over, and both are simple enough that we can leverage our current templates to migrate them without immediate additional work. (Moving the Glossary into Drupal will also make implementing MotionPoint's alphabetize-by-Spanish code much easier on our end.)

Preview links for those are here:

- Glossary: <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/glossary-0>
- Federal reports: <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/federal-reports>

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

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Sender:	Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com) <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Sent Date:	2017/03/03 11:10:37
Delivered Date:	2017/03/03 11:11:07

From:	Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com) <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Subject:	RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...
Date:	2017/02/24 16:40:46
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Brooke,

We've made this edit, and we'll plan to launch this migrated section next week.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

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Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com) <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
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Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

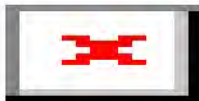
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Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Thanks Chuck, I look forward to reviewing this content!

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To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Hi Brooke,

We've finished an editorial review and extra round of QC on the Fitness and Nutrition section, and it's now properly ready for your final review:

<http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition>

As we discussed, moving forward, that extra editorial QC will be part of our internal process *before* you see any future migrated content.

Let me know if you have any other questions.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

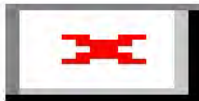
8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

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cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2017 1:30 PM

To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>

Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Hi Chuck,

I'm only about halfway through reviewing this content and trying not to get frustrated – but thought maybe it was more efficient for me to reach out to you directly. There are several links that don't work or go to incorrect places. The one that made me reach out to you are the hyperlinks to glossary terms on the page at <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-be-active-health> - it just looks like there was a mistake in putting the URL in and the "fitness-and-nutrition" part of the URL should not be there. So all of those glossary term links go to an error page.

The list below is the list I've started already– but I'm frustrated by the amount of time this is taking me to correct basic things that someone else could have done. I don't mind being the person to indicate

where a broken link should be changed, but everything else that is a programming error could be taken care of by someone else on the team. I want it to be part of the SOP for the migration that if there is a broken link you either bring it to my attention before or after I review the migrated content – I don't want to be the person whose job it is to click on every single link on every single page to make sure it works. I'd like someone to do that before you send me the content for review.

I'm sure some of the things below are an artifact of the test site, but many are not. Please feel free to call me if it's easier, but let me know what a good next step would be. Thanks.

Brooke

- On the page at <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/nutrition-basics> under the Minerals question in the Sodium row there is a link to Reducing Your Sodium that should go to the page at <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> or we should delete that reference if it's not possible to link to the specific question on that page about reducing your sodium.
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> under the first question, Eating for health, most of the anchor links were wonky on my computer – taking me to question further down in the list than intended.
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> under the Heart healthy eating question, the glossary link for “stroke” goes to the glossary entry for heart disease instead of the entry for stroke.
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> under the Nutrition Facts Label question, the link to the text-only food label does not work.
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> under the How to find nutrient content of foods that do not have labels question, the last hyperlink to the Nutrient Lists should be updated to <https://www.ars.usda.gov/northeast-area/beltsville-md/beltsville-human-nutrition-research-center/nutrient-data-laboratory/docs/usda-national-nutrient-database-for-standard-reference/>.
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> under the Reducing and limiting your sodium question, please delete the last sentence: “Also, check out the Potassium page in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Nutrient Lists.” since I cannot find an equivalent and they don't seem to have that page any longer.
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> under the Healthy recipes question, please delete the first bullet since the link does not work:
 - [Delicious Decisions \(Copyright © American Heart Association\)\(link is external\)](#) — Search this database of recipes that are good for your heart! This website also provides information to help you make heart-healthy choices when eating out and at the supermarket
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> under the Should I take vitamin and mineral supplements question, the link to the folic acid fact sheet in the first bullet does not work – I'm not sure about the redirect on the test site, but can you just make sure it works once you publish? Thanks.
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/how-eat-health> under the More information on eating healthy question, I think you can safely remove the “link

is external” text where that appears because you have the icon which I think is sufficient. I don’t recall that text being elsewhere on the site.

- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/special-food-issues> under the Dealing with lactose intolerance question, the hyperlink for our “foods rich in calcium” resulted in a 404 error page. Can you fix that?
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/special-food-issues> under the Vegetarian eating question, those anchor links at the beginning to various terms/minerals/vitamins – the first one (protein) worked correctly, but the others (iron, zinc, etc.) did not lead to an expanded question when I opened them all in a new Tab. Am I doing something wrong? So throughout this section the hyperlink to iron leads to a collapsed question but the hyperlink to protein leads to an expanded question (and the correct one). Why are they different?
- On <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition/special-food-issues> under the Vegetarian eating question in the sentence that comes after the three bullets the first hyperlink for calcium seems to be linked to a section on B12 instead. Can you fix it?
-

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]

Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2017 9:50 AM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)

Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Sheryl Rhoads; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)

Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Hi Brooke,

The migrated Fitness and Nutrition section is now ready for your review:
<http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/fitness-and-nutrition>

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2017 9:13 AM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com) <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Thanks Chuck, option 1 is fine.

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 02, 2017 9:12 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Sheryl Rhoads; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Hi Brooke,

Attached are a few more photo options for the Special Issues section. Let me know if any of these match your preference.

The rest of the migrated pages will be ready for you to review today.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

(b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 3:49 PM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads

<SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com)
<dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Here are my choices for the photos – except for the Special Issues section. I'd prefer a photo that somehow indicates a food allergy or intolerance/concern –that section is about allergies, lactose intolerance, gluten/celiac, etc. The ones proposed are all very generic. Thanks.

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, January 27, 2017 3:12 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Sheryl Rhoads; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Fitness & Nutrition (migrated) photos for review, plus...

Hi Brooke,

Attached is a PDF for your review/approval of photo choices for the migration of the old Fitness and Nutrition section. You'll notice there are a lot fewer pages listed here than are on the current site; that's because a number of sub-pages have been consolidated into their parent page. Let me know if you have any specific questions about that.

I also have two additional pages to migrate into Drupal, with your approval: the glossary and the Federal reports page. These are both linked to prominently enough (the glossary within both old and new health content areas, the federal reports page via the About Us link) that I think it will help our current mobile experience to move these over, and both are simple enough that we can leverage our current templates to migrate them without immediate additional work. (Moving the Glossary into Drupal will also make implementing MotionPoint's alphabetize-by-Spanish code much easier on our end.)

Preview links for those are here:

- Glossary: <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/glossary-0>
- Federal reports: <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/federal-reports>

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

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cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

Sender:	Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Recipient:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Darcy Sawatzki (dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com) <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Sent Date:	2017/02/24 16:40:13
Delivered Date:	2017/02/24 16:40:46

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Akudo Nwankpa <ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
CC:	Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Health Information Gateway request for Friday, October 13
Date:	2017/10/13 14:02:37
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Great, thanks!

From: Akudo Nwankpa [mailto:ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com]
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 1:58 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Emily Dammeyer
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Health Information Gateway request for Friday, October 13

Hi Brooke,

The "Health data" was originally listed, but it has been removed. Also the title for "Health Information Gateway (formerly Quick Health Data Online)" was corrected.

Thank you,
Akudo

Akudo Nwankpa
Digital Project Coordinator | Palladian Partners
Office: 301-273-2857
Email: anwankpa@palladianpartners.com
Website: PalladianPartners.com

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov]
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 1:42 PM
To: Akudo Nwankpa <ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (<eosborn@hagerssharp.com>) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Health Information Gateway request for Friday, October 13

Hi Akudo,

Thanks for the update. The listing in the A-Z health topics is slightly incorrect and different from what it looked like previously. The part that says "(formerly Quick Health Data Online)" needs to be listed next to the "Health Information Gateway", not where it says "Health data" above that. Was "Health data" listed before? I don't remember seeing that or asking for that. Can you remove it?

Thanks.
Brooke

From: Akudo Nwankpa [<mailto:ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 1:33 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Emily Dammeyer
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Health Information Gateway request for Friday, October 13

Hi Brooke,

The links and updated titles are live now, so you should be able to see them now.

On the [Programs and activities](#) page, the Health Information Gateway is not in its correct order alphabetically, but we're currently working to update that as well.

Thank you,
Akudo

Akudo Nwankpa
Digital Project Coordinator | Palladian Partners
Office: 301-273-2857
Email: anwankpa@palladianpartners.com
Website: PalladianPartners.com

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 1:12 PM
To: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Akudo Nwankpa <ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: RE: Health Information Gateway request for Friday, October 13

I'm not seeing this update yet – I've used Cntrl + F5 several times to refresh my browser. Will it be there soon?

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 11:33 AM
To: 'Emily Dammeyer'
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Akudo Nwankpa
Subject: RE: Health Information Gateway request for Friday, October 13

Yes. Thank you.

From: Emily Dammeyer [<mailto:EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 11:32 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Akudo Nwankpa
Subject: RE: Health Information Gateway request for Friday, October 13

Got it. So we're going back to the language you sent in your original note about these changes, correct?
An online system that provides state-level public health data by sex, and race and ethnicity, to inform policies and programs

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 11:17 AM
To: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Akudo Nwankpa <ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: RE: Health Information Gateway request for Friday, October 13
Importance: High

I want to be sure you understand and I understand! The current language that is up right now for QHDO includes "county." The update I sent you, on the email chain below, did not include "county" because the new system does not include county-level data. So the description you push live at noon should NOT include the word "county."

From: Emily Dammeyer [<mailto:EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 11:06 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Akudo Nwankpa
Subject: RE: Health Information Gateway request for Friday, October 13

Got it. We'll make that update back to the current language and be ready to go at noon.

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 10:58 AM
To: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Health Information Gateway request for Friday, October 13
Importance: High

Yes, that's what I'm asking.

It's good-to-go except for one thing – I originally took out “county-” from the updated description I sent you originally on the Programs and Activities page because the system no longer includes county-level data. So you have to take that out of the staging site language. It's a point of contention with Congress so it's sort of important to get it right.

From: Emily Dammeyer [<mailto:EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 10:29 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Health Information Gateway request for Friday, October 13

You mean the Mega Menu/Fat Footer won't be live when these changes go live, right? If so, that's right – we can make these updates to the HIG on the existing pages without pushing the Mega Menu/Fat Footer live. Is that what you're asking?

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 10:26 AM
To: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Health Information Gateway request for Friday, October 13

Also, I know those are in Mega-menu/fat-footer versions because they're on the staging server but they won't be like that once live, right?

From: Emily Dammeyer [<mailto:EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2017 10:22 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Health Information Gateway request for Friday, October 13

Hi Brooke,

We're planning to make the switch to the Health Information Gateway at noon today. Below are the staging links, if you would like to review. We will plan on making these changes live at noon unless we hear otherwise.

<http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/a-z-topics/>

<http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/about-us/what-we-do/programs-and-activities>

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 2:46 PM

To: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>

Subject: Health Information Gateway request for Friday, October 13

Hi,

Alan Simon would like the changes below to go live around noon on Friday. Is that doable? He's fairly insistent on his team speaking with Yvonne, but I'm not sure that's necessary at this point since the URL <https://gateway.womenshealth.gov> is already functioning and the changes below are window dressing.

We're not going to promote it at this point, just making it "public" with the updates below – taking off all of the old QHDO URLs. This satisfies the legislative mandate we have and the rest will come later.

Can you let me know what you think? Thanks.

Brooke

[On the A-Z Health Topics page:](#)

New entry under "H":

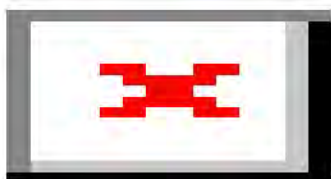
[Health Information Gateway](#) (formerly Quick Health Data Online)

Revised entry under "Q":

Quick Health Data Online – now the [Health Information Gateway](#)

[On the Programs and Activities page:](#)

Update the QHDO listing and move it alphabetically to the correct place:



https://www.womenshealth.gov/files/images/programsactivities_bucket_24.jpg

Health Information Gateway (formerly Quick Health Data Online)

An online system that provides state-level public health data by sex, and race and ethnicity, to inform policies and programs

- [Read more](#)

Brooke Leggin

Web and Community Manager



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: brooke.leggin@hhs.gov

Work Hours: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm ET

Main: 202-690-7650 | **Direct:** M, Th, F 202-205-2373 T, W 301-864-2607

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Akudo Nwankpa <ANwankpa@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagerssharp.com) <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

	(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/10/13 14:02:35
Delivered Date:	2017/10/13 14:02:37

From:	Roshni Devchand <RDevchand@HagerSharp.com>
To:	Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagersharp.com>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
CC:	Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Feedback on Heart Disease & Stroke module
Date:	2017/04/19 13:42:59
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Yep, ditto what Darcy said. Happy to rework the questions and send you a new draft based on these objectives. Thanks!

From: Darcy Sawatzki
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 1:34 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) <Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>; Roshni Devchand <RDevchand@HagerSharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Feedback on Heart Disease & Stroke module

Sounds good!

This was based on what we did for HIV/AIDS section which WAS for the purpose of checking a box on an award submission (the Clearmark, which we won)! ☺

Happy to go a different direction for this section.
-D

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 1:31 PM
To: Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagersharp.com>; Roshni Devchand <RDevchand@HagerSharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Feedback on Heart Disease & Stroke module

Thanks Darcy, this articulates my thought perfectly. I am not interested in sharing this feedback with HHS leadership because they will not take it seriously due to the low n. Feedback like this from this number of people is typically used to address look-and-feel issues and quick navigation fixes. To show the whole website's utility and satisfaction requires Google Analytics numbers, usability testing, and other third-party survey results like ForeSee. With this type of survey I am interested in hearing what real users think of our new look-and-feel, navigation, and streamlined content in a quick and dirty way.

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Ann, Roshni...additional thoughts?

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Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 12:41 PM
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Cc: Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagersharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
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Brooke

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Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2017 12:17 PM
To: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Darcy Sawatzki; Elizabeth Osborn
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Hi Ann and Brooke,

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srcloudedwards46@yahoo.com (It would be nice if you brought back the women's calendar.)

jmorrison5.320@lgflmail.org (more visual effects)

harleygirlflack@gmail.com (Offer a fitness and health tracking program)

cfessier@gfhs.info (Probably could add more art or some animation to web site.)

beth.spurgin@stvin.org (eating disorders)

angelalgsdn@aim.com (links to outside websites did not work)

valscott688@gmail.com (No comment yet. It was my first visit from work and I didn't have time to browse.)

burmetam@charter.net (update information more often)

Patricia.Bass@Healthsouth.com (no clue)

Please let us know if you have any feedback on the form or the individuals we propose to contact.

Thanks!

Roshni

ROSHNI DEVCHAND, MPH, MCHES

Associate Director, Strategic Planning & Research

1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E

WASHINGTON, DC 20005

WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM

D 202.706.7457 C (b)(6)



cid:93B7D1FE-08F5-4DDC-BEBC-195D74AED88E

Sender:	Roshni Devchand <RDevchand@HagerSharp.com>
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Sent Date:	2017/04/19 13:42:22
Delivered Date:	2017/04/19 13:42:59

From:	Roshni Devchand <RDevchand@HagerSharp.com>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>
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Subject:	RE: Feedback on Heart Disease & Stroke module
Date:	2017/04/26 08:34:44
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Great – thanks!

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 8:33 AM
To: Roshni Devchand <RDevchand@HagerSharp.com>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Feedback on Heart Disease & Stroke module

Looks great! Thanks so much!

From: Roshni Devchand [mailto:RDevchand@HagerSharp.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 8:30 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Darcy Sawatzki
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Feedback on Heart Disease & Stroke module

Thanks so much, Brooke, and apologies for the delay in getting back to you (I was out sick). These changes look great, and we've incorporated them here:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Preview/?sm=GkyPTZcj0XznBNqj1iXwl0RHn4bajQA_2FxThJpRNA1bLjfAahsPzTEUyIPRv9sm6a. If this looks good to you, we'll send it off to the respondents with the updated invitation language below.

Thanks!
Roshni

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 9:39 AM
To: Roshni Devchand <RDevchand@HagerSharp.com>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Feedback on Heart Disease & Stroke module

Thanks Roshni, I just have a few tweaks.

Question2

Let's use the word "element" instead of "component."

Let's use these answer choices:

- Organization of the Heart Disease and Stroke pages
- Ability to know what I will find within each section [this gets at labeling, so "labeling" does not need to be included in the first question about organization]
- Font size
- Amount of text on each page
- The "look-and-feel" of the pages, including the colors, photos, and amount of white space
- Ability to find the most important information to me

Please tell us how you would improve any of these elements you rated as "Poor."

Question 3

I'm not sure what "Appropriate" means here. Feel free to delete, I think the other answer choices are good.

Invite letter:

Dear womenshealth.gov user,

In the past you filled out a website survey for us. Thank you for taking the time to do that. We carefully review all website comments to improve the health information on <https://womenshealth.gov>. On that survey, you provided your email address to give us more feedback in the future.

We've recently updated our heart disease and stroke information for women (at <https://www.womenshealth.gov/heart-disease-and-stroke>). We'd love to get your feedback on these new pages. Do you have time to answer just 5 questions on a short survey? If so, we'd love to hear what you think.

Heart Disease and Stroke section: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/heart-disease-and-stroke>
Survey link: www.surveymonkey.com/r/heartdiseaseandstroke

Thanks in advance!

From: Roshni Devchand [<mailto:RDevchand@HagerSharp.com>]

Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 4:53 PM

To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Darcy Sawatzki

Cc: Elizabeth Osborn; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)

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Also, below is the draft invitation language.

Thanks, and happy Friday!
Roshni

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Survey link: www.surveymonkey.com/r/heartdiseaseandstroke

Thanks in advance!

Roshni Devchand
On behalf of the HHS Office on Women's Health

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cid:93B7D1FE-08F5-4DDC-BEBC-195D74AED88E

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Sent Date:	2017/04/26 08:34:04
Delivered Date:	2017/04/26 08:34:44

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
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Subject:	RE: Feedback on Heart Disease & Stroke module
Date:	2017/04/21 16:54:11
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thanks Roshni! I'll check it out on Monday!

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Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 4:53 PM
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https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Preview/?sm=GkyPTZcj0XznBNqj1iXwl0RHn4bajQA_2FxThJpRNA1bljfAahsPzTEUyIPRv9sm6a

As we did last time, we again looked through our most recent ForeSee results to identify potential respondents who (1) provided their email address to be contacted again in the future, and (2) left some kind of open-ended feedback through ForeSee. Most of these individuals came to womenshealth.gov through various A-Z health topics and many identified themselves as general consumers. The text in parentheses are snippets of their open-ended comments.

srcloudedwards46@yahoo.com (It would be nice if you brought back the women's calendar.)
jmorrison5.320@lgflmail.org (more visual effects)
harleygirlflack@gmail.com (Offer a fitness and health tracking program)
cfessier@gfhs.info (Probably could add more art or some animation to web site.)
beth.spurgin@stvin.org (eating disorders)
angelalgsdn@aim.com (links to outside websites did not work)
valscott688@gmail.com (No comment yet. It was my first visit from work and I didn't have time to browse.)
burmetam@charter.net (update information more often)
Patricia.Bass@Healthsouth.com (no clue)

Please let us know if you have any feedback on the form or the individuals we propose to contact.

Thanks!
Roshni

ROSHNI DEVCHAND, MPH, MCHES
Associate Director, Strategic Planning & Research

1030 15TH STREET NW, SUITE 600E
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
WWW.HAGERSHARP.COM
D 202.706.7457 C (b)(6)



cid:93B7D1FE-08F5-4DDC-BEBC-195D74AED88E

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Roshni Devchand <RDevchand@HagerSharp.com>; Darcy Sawatzki <dsawatzki@hagersharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/04/21 16:54:10
Delivered Date:	2017/04/21 16:54:11

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
CC:	Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagersharp.com) <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì (PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com) <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Subject:	RE: For Review: Mega Menu Designs
Date:	2017/08/08 09:29:32
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Yes, during the regular Health Writing meeting sounds good ☺

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 08, 2017 9:28 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Emily Dammeyer
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagersharp.com); Patricia Nicastrì (PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Sheryl Rhoads
Subject: RE: For Review: Mega Menu Designs

Hi Brooke,

Absolutely—happy to talk through it. Would 1PM tomorrow work for you?

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

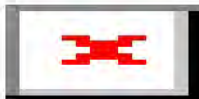
8484 Georgia Avenue, Suite 400
Silver Spring, MD 20910

t: 301.273.2822

m: (b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, August 08, 2017 8:40 AM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagersharp.com) <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì (PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com) <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: RE: For Review: Mega Menu Designs

Chuck this looks great – but I think I still have questions about how this works – could we discuss on Wednesday? Or we could meet anytime today before 4 (but not from 10:30 – 11:00) if it's time sensitive? Thanks.
Brooke

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Monday, August 07, 2017 1:54 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Emily Dammeyer
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagersharp.com); Patricia Nicastrì (PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Sheryl Rhoads
Subject: RE: For Review: Mega Menu Designs

Hi Brooke,

Attached is the latest refinement of the Womenshealth megamenu mobile design. Of note are the following changes made as a result of our design and development teams' work as well as our discussion last week:

- The bottom line separating accordion-based menu items from their dropdown list has been removed for better visual clarity.
- The "Main Menu" option has been moved to the top of the menu, and the associated icon has been changed to an up-facing arrow as a clearer visual cue. We've renamed the item "Top Menu" in these mock-ups, just to give you a sense of that alternative; we're happy and able to switch back to "Main Menu" if you still feel that it works as a name with this new ordering.
- We've taken the tagline off of the logo in mobile, but maintain the longer version of that tagline in the footer "A federal government website managed by the Office on Women's Health in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services"). You can see that, as well as the full treatment of the mobile footer, in this mockup.

Please let me know if you have any additional feedback or thoughts regarding the functionality of the megamenu (desktop or mobile). Our plan is to have a functional test of the megamenu and fat footer ready, pending feedback, for your review by the end of next week; I should have a more concrete timeline for you soon.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

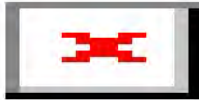
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e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, July 28, 2017 4:03 PM
To: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagersharp.com) <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì (PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com) <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: RE: For Review: Mega Menu Designs

Agreed that this is much easier to understand visually, but I think I still like the "Main menu" label if it's moved to the top of the list and the "Back" option is eliminated entirely. Also, was just checking out NIH's mobile and some other ICs and sometimes on the NIH one the top nav section you're in (for them it was "News and Events" but for us it would be something like "Health and Wellness") was at the top of the screen in a navigation bar, immediately under the header. Do you think it would help to do something like that or do you think it's unnecessary? If someone is checking out info in one of our main 15 (or 16? I can never keep it straight) content areas then it might be nice for them to know that they're there so they could navigate to somewhere else within that section? Or maybe I don't really understand how it would work.

From: Emily Dammeyer [<mailto:EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, July 28, 2017 2:25 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Chuck Sebian-Lander
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagersharp.com); Patricia Nicastrì (PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Sheryl Rhoads
Subject: RE: For Review: Mega Menu Designs

Hi Brooke,

Thanks for the update. The timing is great because we just finished a discussion/brainstorm about the feedback you provided. We talked about some alternatives to the "Main Menu" label, as we discussed on Wednesday. We've landed on two options:

- Back to Top

- Top Menu

In addition, we would like to move that highest level of navigation (the current Main Menu) to the top of the list, so it's more intuitive to the user where it would take you. We'll also include a visual cue, which you'll see in the design. It's a bit hard to explain in writing, but we'll have updated designs to show early next week, which I think will be clear.

In the meantime, please let me know if you have questions, and which label you prefer.

Thanks, and have a great weekend!

Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, July 28, 2017 1:28 PM
To: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagersharp.com) <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì (PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com) <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: RE: For Review: Mega Menu Designs

We do not have any other feedback about these lovely megamenus aside from our discussion about the mobile on Wednesday. Thanks!

From: Emily Dammeyer [<mailto:EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Monday, July 24, 2017 4:05 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Chuck Sebian-Lander
Cc: Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagersharp.com); Patricia Nicastrì (PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH); Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH); Sheryl Rhoads
Subject: For Review: Mega Menu Designs

Hi Ann, Brooke and Candace,
Attached please find the designs for the mega menu (desktop and mobile). These are based on the wireframes and use the OWH colors so there shouldn't be any surprises, but please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. In order to keep us on track and allow us to launch next month, could we please have any feedback by Friday, July 28?

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Palladian Partners
301.273.2851

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) [<mailto:Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2017 11:46 AM
To: Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>
Cc: Emily Dammeyer <EDammeyer@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagersharp.com) <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì (PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com) <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>
Subject: RE: Recap of 6/27 Content Strategy Meeting: Mega Menu

Thanks Chuck!

I got the final consensus from the OWH staff and Jenn's sign off on using "Health and Wellness" as the label for that first section on the top nav.

Also, we'd like to change the name of the subtopic "Violence and safety" in the that part of the mega-menu to "Relationships and safety."

Also, please remove the subtopic "Sexual assault" from the "Reproductive Health" top nav area. You could put "Sexually transmitted infections" in its place if you'd like to have 5 topics there.

The link to All A-Z Health Topics under the Printables and Shareables tab should be removed because it's confusing unless it goes to a page under Printables and Shareables.

We have some changes to the Fat Footer also:

- Please remove Regional Women's Health Coordinators
- Please remove Know the Facts First
- Under Find Help please change the mental health item to "Get help with mental health" with a link to <https://findtreatment.samhsa.gov/> or whatever appropriate tool they have at SAMHSA for that purpose.
- We love the social media link under Stay Connected but will need to see the draft page that link will go to before launch.
- Is there any way to put girlshealth.gov into the Fat Footer?

Thanks for all of this. It's very exciting!
Brooke

From: Chuck Sebian-Lander [<mailto:CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>]
Sent: Friday, July 07, 2017 9:23 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Emily Dammeyer; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagersharp.com); Patricia Nicastrì (PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com)
Subject: RE: Recap of 6/27 Content Strategy Meeting: Mega Menu

Hi all,

As promised below, we have updated megamenu wireframes for your review.

Desktop: <http://xmo0op.axshare.com>

Mobile: <http://28tdnp.axshare.com>

Just a reminder that these do not represent significant design decisions and are instead meant to demonstrate our intended approach to the functionality of the megamenu in desktop vs. mobile environments.

Please let us know if you have any feedback.

Thanks,

Chuck Sebian-Lander
Digital Project Manager

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Silver Spring, MD 20910

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m: (b)(6)

e: csebian-lander@palladianpartners.com

w: www.palladianpartners.com



cid:image001.jpg@01D11700.C4A854E0

From: Emily Dammeyer

Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2017 7:59 AM

To: ann.abercrombie@hhs.gov; Brooke.Leggin@hhs.gov; Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov; Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov; Adrianne.Phenix@hhs.gov; Cheryl.Thompson@hhs.gov

Cc: Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>; Elise LaPrade <ELaPrade@palladianpartners.com>; PNicastri@HagerSharp.com; Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; eosborn@hagersharp.com

Subject: Recap of 6/27 Content Strategy Meeting: Mega Menu

Hi everyone,

Thanks for a productive, thoughtful meeting Tuesday about the mega menu for Womenshealth.gov. I know we summarized decisions and next steps at the end of the meeting, but I thought it would be helpful to recap.

We decided on a modified version of Option 1 that Elise shared (http://q8ib46.axshare.com/#g=1&p=topnav-home-option_1). The top navigation will be:

- Health and Wellness (labeling TBD)

- Diseases and Conditions
- Reproductive Health
- Printables and Shareables (bringing in "Browse by HealthTopic" into the drop down from Option 2)
- About Us

In the future we may want to have a Health Professionals section, but we don't have the content now, so we'll leave Printables and Shareables as is.

We brainstormed a few options for Health and Wellness yesterday, which Brooke will be sharing so we can come to a decision.

As for timing, we plan to send you wireframes for review next week, likely July 5. Once we have your feedback, we'll revise (if needed) and move into design. Our goal is to provide a review link to you by mid-August, during the week of August 14.

Please let me know if you have any questions about our plan. As a reminder, a few of us have upcoming vacation planned. Sheryl is out for the rest of the week, and Elise and I will be out next week. Chuck is back, and Elizabeth and the Hager Sharp team can help with anything that may come up.

Thanks,
Emily

Emily Dammeyer
Senior Digital Project Director

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cid:image003.jpg@01D14EE6.27BB5C90

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Chuck Sebian-Lander <CSebian-Lander@palladianpartners.com>; Elizabeth Osborn (eosborn@hagersharp.com) <eosborn@hagersharp.com>; Patricia Nicastrì (PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com) <PNicastrì@HagerSharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Sheryl Rhoads <SRhoads@palladianpartners.com>

Sent Date:	2017/08/08 09:29:31
Delivered Date:	2017/08/08 09:29:32

From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
To:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject:	RE: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health
Date:	2017/04/24 10:53:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

While I don't love the range (20-80%) let's edit it to match the fact sheet. I want to get this into clearance today.

Thanks.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 9:57 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Val,

I was just about to email you about this. For the stat, she says: Fibroids affect up to 80% of women by age 50 — many having their personal and professional lives derailed by infertility, life-threatening bleeding and resulting anemia, debilitating cramps, embarrassing incontinence (loss of bladder control), and so much more.

The wh.gov fact sheet says: About 20 percent to 80 percent of women develop fibroids by the time they reach age 50. Fibroids are most common in women in their 40s and early 50s. Not all women with fibroids have symptoms.

I don't feel that her version truly captures what the wh.gov fact sheet says, so I think we can either edit it to match the fact sheet or we can say that "at least 20% of women develop fibroids by the time they reach 50..."

Do you have a preference? I can also run them both by her. Just let me know.

Thanks,
Alli

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 9:32 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Please send me the final version and I will put through OWH clearance again though ask that no changed be made unless critical!

Thanks. Val

From: Gessie Thompson [<mailto:info@gessiethompson.com>]
Sent: Sunday, April 23, 2017 11:37 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Allison,

I hope this finds you well. One quick note: Please correct the dates for National Fibroids Awareness and National Infertility Awareness week. It's actually, April 23 to 29th.

Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
P: 718-591-2447
F: 646-478-9179
info@gessiethompson.com
www.gessiethompson.com

[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:53 PM, Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:
Hi Allison,

Thank you so much for your edits! A few last notes:

- I understand the issue regarding the statistics but because fibroids are such a marginalized issue the awareness is extremely low. Therefore, I feel it is very important to share a statistic. Consequently, I pulled from the WomensHealth.gov fact sheet to provide that context.
- I am ok with all the changes around the "numbers" of my story but ask that if possible we keep the words "siphoning off" the blood supply rather than "cutting back" as I don't feel it's descriptive enough to truly tell what my daughter was experiencing in the womb.

- • Outside of that, I have accepted the lion's share of the changes.

Thank you also for adding in the language I requested around the #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory campaign! I look forward to hearing back from you and finalizing the piece.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

P: [718-591-2447](tel:718-591-2447)

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info@gessiethompson.com

www.gessiethompson.com

[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:17 PM, Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Attached please find the edited version of your post. I worked with Valerie to ensure that this meets OWH's style guidelines, including making edits to ensure that it's consumer-friendly.

For the statistic, we would have to include the one on womenshealth.gov. Because it's such a broad range of women impacted by fibroids, we didn't think it strengthened the post, so we recommend not including it.

Lastly, we worked in the language you provided below.

Please let me know if you have any questions about these edits. Once we get the greenlight, this can go through the final round of review at OWH.

Thanks, and have a nice weekend!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]

Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 3:42 PM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie and Alli

I hope this finds you well. I know you're still working to finalize my blog piece. I had a quick question. Next week is "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week. Can we add a line at the end of the article like this?

In observance of "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week (April 22 to 29th), we invite you to stop suffering in silence by SHARING YOUR STORY using the hashtags #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory and #NIAW #NFAW. Collectively, we will proclaim that Fibroids and Infertility matter!

I've attached a revised version of the article with this verbiage. Thank you so much!

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
P: [718-591-2447](tel:718-591-2447)
F: [646-478-9179](tel:646-478-9179)
info@gessiethompson.com
www.gessiethompson.com

[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:39 PM, Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:
Excellent! Thank you.

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:37 PM Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks so much for following up. My apologies on the delayed response. Like Valerie mentioned in her email, I'll review this version to make sure that it coincides with OWH style. We'll be back in touch with you soon with any additional edits or changes.

Thanks!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 3:11 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Alli,

I hope this finds you well. I just want to ensure you have a version of the blog that corresponds with my response to Valerie's last email so I have attached it here. NOTE: I have also added my website to my About the Author.

For your easy reference, I have pated below my responses sent yesterday:

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as there language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan."It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million; 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

Please advise of any further updates. Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Wed, Apr 19, 2017 at 11:02 AM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Thank you for forwarding your changes to the article and I'm glad that it was more in line with your expectations and guidelines for the piece. We're almost there!

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as the language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- • Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- • Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan." It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. • My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. • The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:

1. • 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million;
156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

I hope that helps and I hope you're doing something fun! Thank you again for your help in getting it up to code! :)

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 3:22 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for the quick turnaround! This version definitely follows the direction we discussed. We made a few additional edits in the attached version. Primarily we provided more cautious language about the link between fibroids and estrogen and we removed the examples of the toxin-free products. The removal of this language helps to get the word count down closer to our preferred number of 700.

The one thing I still need from you is the citation for the stats you provide in the 3^d paragraph.

I've copied my colleague Alli on this email so please Reply to All with your citation. She will make sure this post adheres to our style guide (grammar, etc). I want to keep this moving while I'm on travel and without email access for the next two days. (Alli: I'll be back on Friday and will aim to get final OWH sign off then).

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson

Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 12:50 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

My apologies. This time I'll attach the article. :)

On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 12:48 PM, Gessie Thompson

<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Happy Tuesday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm back in the USA but when I close my eyes I'm back on Charles Bridge! Even on my fourth visit, Prague is a GORGEOUS city. This time we did an excursion to Karlstejn Castle, which included a horse carriage ride up the hill to the actual castle. If you go back, you definitely want to do that.

Attached is the revised article and I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- Head Shot: <https://app.box.com/s/z41oqn4z1viq4y44zsddb3ioefuvcef>
- Family Photo: <https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s21gs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you again for your guidance. I think I got it right this time. I look forward to your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility

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On Fri, Apr 14, 2017 at 12:37 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I like your new approach idea as it removes any concerns we would have with providing medical recommendations.

Thanks for your specific questions. Here are my answers to each:

1. While research may suggest a link between estrogen and fibroids, it is scientifically unclear if estrogen is a causal factor. So we would prefer that you not state

it as fact. You can indicate that as a result of this research you took steps to reduce your levels and discuss those.

2. Yes, you can keep in the opening quote if you remove the reference.

3 and 4. We are not only prohibited from promoting products, services and providers, but we also cannot give the appearance of an endorsement. That is why we cannot include your MP3 file even it is free. Yes, we can definitely link to your website in your author byline and bio!

I hope this answers your questions. In terms of a date for returning a revised version, is Tues, April 18 by 4 EST possible? I leave for work travel the next day and would like to get this put in to clearance on Tuesday before I go if possible.

Best and safe travels home,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson

Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 7:21 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Yes. Prague is a beautiful city...one of my favorites!

Thank you for forwarding the revised article. Given the changes, I'd like to take a different approach to the article as you've advised--adding in what helped me personally. I will use the approach taken in the current "Becoming a PCOS Diva" article--meaning, speaking about it from a personal perspective verses a medical recommendation. A few questions:

1. • If we remove the reference to the doctors, can I still include the content around the fact that research consistently links the growth of fibroids to estrogen and from there speak to how I reduced my estrogen levels by removing the toxins out of my lifestyles through stress management, diet and exercises?
2. • I see that you removed the first two sentences of my opening quote. Can we keep it in if I simply remove the reference to the book and just use it as an opening quote?
3. • I see that you've deleted the free MP3 that I linked to the article. This is a free teleseminar that helps women learn more about the lifestyle changes they can make to help manage their fibroids. Is there a way to include this info in the article using different wording?

4. • I see that the Becoming a PCOS Diva article had two links to her website. The first was in her byline and the other in her author bio. Will this be something I can also do?

Thank you and by when do you need the revised document?

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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On Thu, Apr 13, 2017 at 5:57 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I love Prague based on the week I spent there years ago! Hope you are getting good weather as it's a very walkable city.

I apologize for not getting back to you sooner with our edits. The attached has lots of edits but please don't be concerned. The two main things I had to remove were references to your book and the medical doctor who helped you as we are not allowed to promote products or medical professionals by name. In addition I removed the section on the 3 things every woman should know because we will link to our fact sheet on Fibroids: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/uterine-fibroids>

We are excited to hear more of your personal story. You can add how diet and exercise helped you, etc., but we cannot include specific dietary recommendations.

Please feel free to email me back with any questions or concerns.

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 8:06 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm writing to check back in with you on the status of the article. Your last email indicated that you were working on the edits and would be forwarding the final for my review.

The London Women's Health event well and I'm now in Prague on vacation for the week but will be checking email to ensure that I respond to you in a timely manner.

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 9:44 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:
Hi Valerie,

Excellent. Thank you and I look forward to seeing them!

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 4:34 PM Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Thanks Gessie,

I received your blog and we are putting it through review now. I'll share with you our edits once complete.

Enjoy your time in London!

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of**
Gessie Thompson
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 5:31 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Attached is the promised draft of my piece in support of "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" weeks (observed April 22 to 29th).

I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- Head Shot:
<https://app.box.com/s/z41oqn4z1viq4y44zsddbi3ioefuvcef>
- Family Photo:
<https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s21gs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you and I look forward to hearing your thoughts/receiving your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
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On Thu, Mar 16, 2017 at 2:43 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I'm so pleased that you are willing to write a piece for our blog and can meet our April timetable. I look forward to receiving your draft the first week in April.

Thanks again!

Valerie Borden

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]

Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:14 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Dear Valerie,

It's a pleasure to e-meet you and thank you for your email. It would be my honor to share my story through your blog in support of "National Infertility Awareness Week" and "National Fibroids Awareness Week"--which both occur April 23 to 29th.

I will review the guidelines you've provided and submit the piece by the first week of April. I travel on April 6th to speak at a women's health conference in the London area on April 8th so it will ideally be before then.

I look forward to working with you.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

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On Wed, Mar 15, 2017 at 9:24 AM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Dear Gessie,

I work in the HHS Office on Women's Health and manage our blog. Jenn Bishop Crawford and Jill Wasserman shared with me your interest in providing a blog for our site for April for National Infertility Month, April 23-29. Are you able to provide me with a 500-700 word draft by early April? I need about 2 weeks for editorial review and clearance on this end. Attached are our blog guidelines that provide specific guidance. Also, feel free to view our past blog posts at: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog>

Please contact me with any questions. We are very excited to share your story with our blog followers!

Best,

Valerie Borden
Senior Advisor, Public and Private Partnerships
Division of Strategic Communications

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov
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Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: [1-800-994-9662](tel:1-800-994-9662) | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

See-Soar-Succeed!,
Gessie Thompson
President/CEO
The UpLift! Group

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--

Your HOPE Sister,
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Sender:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
Recipient:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Sent Date:	2017/04/24 10:53:32
Delivered Date:	2017/04/24 10:53:00

From:	OA Action Alliance <oaaction@unc.edu>
SentVia:	OA Action Alliance <oaaction=unc.edu@mail40.suw13.rsgsv.net>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	[MARKETING EMAIL]OA Action Alliance - Biweekly Digest, Volume 3; Issue 5
Date:	2017/03/10 14:04:21
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

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The Osteoarthritis Action Alliance Biweekly Digest, Volume 3, Issue 5

We to use this letter to share the latest Osteoarthritis Action Alliance news, and OA-related resources, publications, achievements, events, opportunities from or for our member organizations. Have something you would like to share with us? Please email us at oaaction@unc.edu and we will promote it on our Twitter and Facebook sites and in our upcoming Bi-Weekly digest.

In this issue

- • Osteoarthritis Action Alliance News
- • Events (Conferences, webinars, trainings)
- • Opportunities (Jobs, Internships, Fellowships, Funding)
- • Osteoarthritis in the News
- • Policy, Resources & Reports

Featured this week:

New CDC Vital Signs Report: 54 Million US Adults have Arthritis

The *CDC Vital Signs* is a monthly report that includes an MMWR Early Release, a graphic fact sheet and website, a media release, and social media tools. This month the **Vital Sign is Arthritis!**

CDC researchers analyzed data from the National Health Interview Survey to update key statistics on arthritis prevalence and activity limitations. Key findings include:

- 54 million US adults (23%) reported doctor diagnosed arthritis.
- About 24 million US adults report activity limitations due to arthritis
- More than half of adults with arthritis (32 million) are of working age (18-64 years). Working age adults with arthritis have lower employment than those without arthritis
- About half of adults with heart disease (49%) or diabetes (47%) have arthritis, as do one-third (31%) of those who are obese. Physical activity helps manage all of these conditions

The Vital Signs report contains an early MMWR release, a graphic fact sheet, a media release, and a digital media kit with fact sheets, infographics, podcasts, video, and more! We encourage you to join us in promoting and sharing this material throughout your networks.



Vital^{CDC}signs™

www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/arthritis



CDC Vital Signs Resources

Fact sheets from the CDC: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)

Infographic: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)

[Digital Media Kit](#)

[MMWR Vital Signs: Prevalence of Doctor-Diagnosed Arthritis and Arthritis-Attributable Activity Limitation — United States, 2013–2015](#)

Press Release: Arthritis Limits Daily Activities of 24 million US Adults – [English](#) | [Spanish](#)

[Teleconference: CDC Vital Signs - Arthritis in America Town Hall Teleconference](#), March 14, 2017, 2pm-3pm ET.

[Find out more about CDC Vital Signs Arthritis on the OAAA website.](#)

Osteoarthritis Action Alliance News

- **NEXT WEEK!** Come and [Walk With A Doc](#) at UNC Wellness Center- Meadowmont, 100 Sprunt Street, Chapel Hill. Rain or shine. **Saturday, March 18, 10AM** with Dr. Amanda Nelson from the Thurston Arthritis Research Center in Chapel Hill, NC!

Events

Workshops, Webinars, and Twitter Chats

- **OAAA Lunch and Learn Webinar: Practical Applications for Motivational Interviewing to Encourage People with OA to Make Behavior Changes.** March 15, 2017, 12pm ET.

-
- **NEW!** Teleconference: CDC Vital Signs - Arthritis in America Town Hall Teleconference. March 14, 2017, 2pm-3pm ET.
 - Webinar: Reaching People with Arthritis: Strategies and Tools (featuring the OAAA's very own Dr. Mary Altpeter and Serena Weisner!). March 28, 2017, 3pm ET.
 - **NEW!** Webinar: Exploring the Great Outdoors (America Walks). April 12, 2017, 2pm ET.

Conferences

Save the Date/Register

- American Occupational Therapy Association Annual Conference and Expo, March 30-April 2, 2017, Philadelphia, PA
- Obesity Medicine Conference, April 19-23, Seattle, WA
- OARSI 2017, April 27-30, 2017, Las Vegas, NV
- Bridging Health and Community Community Agency & Health Symposium, May 15-16, 2017, Oakland, CA
- 2017 NIH Pain Consortium Symposium, May 31st- June 1st, 2017, Bethesda MD
- 64th ACSM Annual Meeting, 8th World Congress on Exercise is Medicine, May 30-June

3, 2017 Denver, CO

- • National Athletic Trainers' Association Annual Meeting, June 26-29, 2017, Houston TX.
- • 2017 National Walking Summit St. Paul, MN, September 13-15, 2017
- • International Council on Active Aging Conference, Orlando, FL, October 12-14, 2017
Register early by June 5!
- • Obesity Week, October 31- Nov 2, 2017, Washington, DC
- • American Public Health Association, November 4-8, 2017, Atlanta, GA.
- • American College of Rheumatology, November 3-8, 2017, San Diego, CA

Opportunities

- • Applications are now open for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Health Policy Research Scholars program. Applications due March 29, 2017.

Funding

- • All of Us Research Program Engagement Partners (OT2) - funding will support activities to promote enrollment and retention in the All of Us Research Program across diverse communities. All of Us is an effort to gather data over time from 1 million or more people living in the United States, with the ultimate goal of accelerating research and improving health. Application deadline: March 24, 2017.
- • **NEW!** Specialized Centers of Excellence on Minority Health and Health Disparities - Funds projects to establish National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities Centers of Excellence in eligible institutions of higher education. These centers will provide opportunities for new researchers, invest in community engagement, and engage in research projects that take a transdisciplinary, multi-level approach to minority health. Up to \$950,000 in direct costs annually will be funded for up to 5 years. Earliest submission April 14, 2017. Application deadline: May 15, 2017.
- • Self-Management Interventions and Technologies to Sustain Health and Optimize Functional Capabilities (R01) - clinical research on self-management interventions and technologies that improve health and quality of life in persons needing assistance to optimize and maintain existing functional capabilities, prevent/delay disabilities and navigate their environment. Standard dates apply.
- • National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases - Research Innovations for Scientific Knowledge (RISK) for Musculoskeletal Diseases (R61/R33) - funding for disease-focused translational studies, up to, but not including, first in human studies. Particularly designed to encourage the submission of projects that are considered too risky, premature, controversial, or unconventional for other NIH HHS-18-0191-D-000669.0 \$250,000 per year direct costs for a maximum of 3 years. Earliest submission date June 10,

Osteoarthritis in the News

- [Review identifies treatment methods to reduce complications in TKR patients with obesity](#)
- [Knee Pain Severity, Not Structural Damage, a Risk Factor for Incident Widespread Pain](#)
- [Total knee replacement surgery; taking steps to a pain-free life](#)
- [On the way to healing osteoarthritis](#)
- [With osteoarthritis and exercise, some pain leads to gains](#)
- [Obesity sparking a rise in agonising arthritis among younger people](#)
- [Natural remedies available for nagging arthritis pain](#)
- [1 in 4 U.S. Adults Disabled by Arthritis: CDC](#)
- [Online treatment reduces chronic knee pain from arthritis](#)
- [MI Risk High in Range of Arthritides](#)
- [How your weight affects your joints](#)
- [In her own words: living with osteoarthritis](#)
- [Cellular Biomedicine Group Awarded \\$2.29 Million Grant to Fund Allogeneic Stem Cell Therapy for Knee Osteoarthritis \(KOA\) in the U.S](#)
- [Newly Approved Procedure Relieves Stiff, Sore Knees By Replacing Lost Cartilage](#)

Policy

- **NEW!** In a 2-day Advocacy Summit Monday and Tuesday, 400 Arthritis Foundation advocates held 247 meetings with legislators to discuss patient issues including incorporating patient-centered provisions into any ACA repeal and replace legislation, improving access to treatments, support Arthritis research fundign at the Department of Defense, and joining the Congressional Arthritis Caucus. Check out a recap of [Day 1](#) and [Day 2](#) from the Arthritis Foundation Blog!
- **NEW!** The American HealthCare Act, Congressional Republicans' replacement for the Affordable Care Act, cleared two House committees this week. The Act contains many

changes that may impact older adults and adults with osteoarthritis. These include per capita caps for Medicaid, gradually reducing the Medicaid expansion, increasing the age rating for insurance plan prices from 3:1 to 5:1, and repealing the Prevention and Public Health Fund, which provides funding for Chronic Disease Self Management and Falls Prevention Programs. [Read a statement on the bills from the National Council on Aging.](#)

Resources & Reports

- **NEW!** Download [the Arthritis by the Numbers Fact Book](#) from the Arthritis Foundation!
- [Check out new local-level data on chronic disease risk factors, health outcomes, and preventive service use for the 500 largest cities in the United States at the CDC/CDC Foundation 500 Cities Project.](#)

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From:	HHS IEA (OS/IEA) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4C2B7CE07DDF4F9097D038FCAF299C56-OSIGA>
To:	OS - IGA Regional Directors </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df575a2d0e29445892442641c6ea1e9d-IGAREgDirs.>; OS - IEA HQTS </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=70d21f28a9b445869b97a3c1da935a48-IGA.HQTS.OS>
CC:	OS - IGA Regional Directors </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df575a2d0e29445892442641c6ea1e9d-IGAREgDirs.>
Subject:	HHS IEA Weekly Bulletin
Date:	2017/01/13 15:11:23
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note



HHS IEA Weekly Bulletin

A Weekly Bulletin of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services,
Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs

Friday, January 13, 2017

Visit HHS.gov/Healthcare and CuidadodeSalud.Gov, two consumer-focused health care websites to: [find insurance options](#), [compare care quality](#), and [learn about the law](#).

HHS News

Medicare Advantage Bid Data and Medicare Medical Loss Ratio Release

Thursday, January 12, 2017

CMS has released, for the first time, information submitted by Medicare Advantage plans through the annual bidding process, and Medical Loss Ratio data for plans in Medicare Advantage and Part D.

To access the main data page, visit: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Health-Plans/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/DataFiles.html>

To obtain data for CY2012, visit: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Health-Plans/MedicareAdvtgSpecRateStats/Data-File-Items/BPT2012.html>

Click here for the MLR data: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Advantage/Plan-Payment/MedicalLossRatio.html>

Puerto Rico: Health Medicaid Funds and Health Care Reports

Thursday, January 12, 2017

ASPE released two new Puerto Rico related documents. Firstly, as many as 900,000 Puerto Ricans covered by Medicaid could lose coverage as early as the first quarter of FY 2018. Secondly, 3.5 million Americans living in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico do not have access to a health care system considered standard in the rest of the nation.

To see the Medicaid data, visit: <https://aspe.hhs.gov/pdf-report/nearly-900000-puerto-ricans-may-lose-health-coverage-when-medicaid-funds-run-out>

For the report on Puerto Rico's Health Care System, visit: <https://aspe.hhs.gov/pdf-report/evidence-indicates-range-challenges-puerto-rico-health-care-system>

Pennsylvania Rural Health Model aims to help rural hospitals improve quality, address community health needs

Thursday, January 12, 2017

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and Pennsylvania announced the Pennsylvania Rural Health Model, a new initiative of the CMS Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (Innovation Center). The Model is designed to improve health and health care in rural Pennsylvania under an agreement signed by Governor Tom Wolf and Pennsylvania Secretary of Health Karen Murphy.

To read the press release: <https://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Press-releases/2017-Press-releases-items/2017-01-12.html>

The fact sheet is available, here: <https://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Fact-sheets/2017-Fact-Sheet-items/2017-01-12.html>

One in Five 2014 Marketplace Consumers was a Small Business Owner or Self-Employed

Thursday, January 12, 2017

Treasury released a report with new data on sources of health insurance coverage for small business owners and self-employed workers. These data show that the Affordable Care Act (ACA's) Health Insurance Marketplaces are playing an especially crucial role in providing health coverage to entrepreneurs and other independent workers.

To read the full story, visit: <https://www.hhs.gov/blog/2016/01/12/one-in-five-2014-marketplace-consumers-was-a-small-business-owner-or-self-employed.html>

To read the report, visit: <https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/tax-policy/tax-analysis/Documents/WP-114.pdf>

CMS partners with commercial and state insurers to support primary care practices and reduce clinician burden

Thursday, January 12, 2017

Over the past few years, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has committed to supporting clinicians by providing them with actionable data. This is part of the Administration-wide initiative to unlock government data to promote innovation and best practices. This blog highlights one way we have reached this goal and shares how we plan to use the lessons we've learned in future efforts.

The blog is available, here: <http://blog.cms.gov/2017/01/12/cms-partners-with-commercial-and-state-insurers-to-support-primary-care-practices-and-reduce-clinician-burden>

Continuing Progress on the Opioid Epidemic: The Role of the Affordable Care Act

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) released a new report showing the Affordable Care Act's impact in combating the nation's opioid epidemic

The report is available online at <https://aspe.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/255456/ACAOpoid.pdf>.

Establishment of Special Payment Provisions and Requirements for Qualified Practitioners and Qualified Suppliers of Prosthetics and Custom Fabricated Orthotics (CMS-6012-P)

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a proposed rule: Establishment of Special Payment Provisions and Requirements for Qualified Practitioners and Qualified Suppliers of Prosthetics and Custom Fabricated Orthotics (CMS 6012-P). Comments are due March 3, 2017.

A fact sheet can be found, here: <https://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Fact-sheets/2017-Fact-Sheet-items/2017-01-11.html>.

Vital Signs: Decrease in Incidence of Diabetes-Related End-Stage Renal Disease among American Indians/Alaska Natives — United States, 1996–2013

Tuesday, January 10, 2017

According to a CDC report issued today, Kidney failure from diabetes dropped by 54% in Native Americans between 1996 and 2013. The new report notes that American Indians/Alaska Natives are more likely to have diagnosed diabetes than any other racial or ethnic group. In response to the epidemic of diabetes among American Indians/Alaska Natives, the Indian Health Service developed and put in place a comprehensive diabetes program. Click here <https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/aian-diabetes/index.html> to review the report and a full suite of print and digital engagement material.

Outpacing last year, more than 11.5 million people are signed up for Marketplace coverage

Tuesday, January 10, 2017

A new report released by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) shows that more than 11.5 million people nationwide were signed up for Health Insurance Marketplace coverage as of December 24, 2016, an increase of 286,000 plan selections relative to the comparable period last year.

In addition, more than 700,000 New Yorkers and Minnesotans also signed up for 2017 coverage through their states Basic Health Programs (BHPs), bringing the total signed up for coverage through either the Marketplace or a BHP to 12.2 million.

The press release can be found here: <https://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Press-releases/2017-Press-releases-items/2017-01-10.html>

For a fact sheet, click here: <https://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Fact-sheets/2017-Fact-Sheet-items/2017-01-10.html>

To access these data, visit: https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Statistics-Trends-and-Reports/Marketplace_Products/Downloads/Marketplace_Plan_Selections_by_ZIP_PUF_FINAL.zip

ICD 10 Code and impact on PQRS payment adjustments FAQs

Monday, January 9, 2017

ICD-10-CM received revisions in 2016 October. At that time program stakeholders provided questions regarding measure reporting concerns. CMS analyzed the potential impact of the ICD-10-CM revisions on the quality measures within the program and provided a response initially within a Listserv early December. Stakeholders provided further questions as represented within the list of FAQ questions represented within this document.

The FAQs can be found by clicking here: https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/PQRS/ICD-10_Section.html

CMS Finalizes New Medicare and Medicaid Home Health Care Rules and Beneficiary Protections

Monday, January 9, 2017

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) finalized rules governing home health agencies that will improve the quality of health care services for Medicare and Medicaid patients and strengthen patients' rights. These Medicare and Medicaid Conditions of Participation are the minimum health and safety standards a home health agency must meet in order to participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

To view the press release, visit: <https://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Press-releases/2017-Press-releases-items/2017-01-09.html>

The final rule can be viewed at the Federal Register website at: <https://federalregister.gov/d/2017-00283>

Secretary Burwell's Farewell Speech

Monday, January 9, 2017

Secretary Burwell delivered a farewell speech at the National Press Club highlighting how the ACA has improved access, quality and affordability.

To view the speech, visit: <https://youtu.be/8gTHi4tCVi0>

View a transcript, here: <https://www.hhs.gov/about/leadership/secretary/speeches/2017/reality-repeal-access-quality-and-affordability.html?language=es>

"The reality of repealing the Affordable Care Act"

Monday, January 9, 2017

Secretary Burwell penned an op-ed in the Boston Globe on repeal and replace.

To view the article, visit: <https://www.bostonglobe.com/opinion/editorials/2017/01/09/the-reality-repealing-affordable-care-act/neZNjqIXjUSgO7unvEA57M/story.html>

Enhanced Track 1+ Fact Sheet Posting

Monday, January 9, 2017

On Tuesday, December 20, CMS announced the final rule, "Advancing Care Coordination through Episode Payment Models (CMS-5519-F)" along with a new risk model.

To view the fact sheet, visit: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-Fee-for-Service-Payment/sharedsavingsprogram/Downloads/New-Accountable-Care-Organization-Model-Opportunity-Fact-Sheet.pdf>

HHS Blogs

#CoverageMatters: Health Insurance Is No Mystery to this Rural Maine Writer

January 13, 2017

By: Elizabeth Hand, Lincolnville, Maine

"I'm sharing my story because my #CoverageMatters, just as it does for millions of other Americans. Share your own story on social media using #CoverageMatters."

To read the full blog, click here: <https://www.hhs.gov/blog/2017/01/13/health-insurance-no-mystery-rural-maine-writer.html>

Strengthening Medicare for current and future generations

January 13, 2017

By: Nancy Griswold, Chief Administrative Law Judge, Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals and Constance B. Tobias, Chair, Departmental Appeals Board

"In recent years, an unprecedented increase in the number of Medicare appeals has led to a backlog of pending appeals at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals (OMHA) and Department Appeals Board (DAB). Today, we're taking action to reduce the number of pending appeals and encourage the resolution of cases earlier in the Medicare appeals process."

To read the full blog, click here: <https://www.hhs.gov/blog/2017/01/13/strengthening-medicare-for-current-and-future-generations.html>

#CoverageMatters: The ACA Helped Me Make My Side Gig My Main Gig

January 12, 2017

By: Kathy Cano-Murillo, Phoenix, Arizona

"The Affordable Care Act is great for those of us who are growing a business, big or small, because that hard work contributes so much to our local and national community. But this security is now in jeopardy for millions of Americans, like myself, Latinos and other hard-working middle-class families who rely on the Affordable Care Act. I'm sharing my story during Latino Week of Action because #CoverageMatters to me, just as it does for millions of other American women and men. Share your own story on social media using #CoverageMatters."

To read the full blog, click here: <https://www.hhs.gov/blog/2017/01/12/coveragematters-aca-helped-me-make-my-side-gig-my-main-gig.html>

#CoverageMatters: Artists Day of Action

January 12, 2017

By: Kelley Deal, Dayton, Ohio

"I feel super proud that I have health insurance. I pay my premiums every month. I don't take my coverage for granted, not for a minute."

To read the full blog, click here: <https://www.hhs.gov/blog/2017/01/12/coveragematters-artists-day-action.html>

#CoverageMatters: Medicaid Is Helping Me Stay Alive and Fight My Breast Cancer

January 11, 2017

By: Chiara D'Agostino, Montclair, New Jersey

"With all the talk of Obamacare repeal and changes in Medicaid, I'm afraid I won't have coverage. And that terrifies me. I don't want to die because I can't afford health insurance. I'm sharing my story because #CoverageMatters to me, just as it does for millions of other American women and men. Share your own story on social media using #CoverageMatters."

To read the full blog, click here: <https://www.hhs.gov/blog/2017/01/11/medicaid-is-helping-me-stay-alive-and-fight-my-breast-cancer.html>

HHS Collaborates with the Private Sector to Encourage Marketplace Enrollment

January 11, 2017

By: Ashwani Jain, Associate Director of External Affairs, Private Sector & Hospital/Provider & Opioids Engagement

"This Open Enrollment, we have worked with several private sector companies to encourage Americans to sign up for quality, affordable health coverage. Several companies have committed to reaching their customers and clients nationwide – with a focus on uninsured young adults – to promote Open Enrollment."

To read the full blog, click here: <https://www.hhs.gov/blog/2017/01/11/hhs-collaborates-private-sector-encourage-marketplace.html>

#CoverageMatters: The ACA Makes Coverage Stronger For Everyone, Even Through Your Job

January 10, 2017

By: Tracy Trovato, Chicago, Illinois

“Even if you have coverage through your employer, you need the protection that the Affordable Care Act offers. All too often, we don’t know what we don’t have covered until we get hit by cancer, or some other illness, or accident. And by then it’s too late.”

To read the full blog, click here: <https://www.hhs.gov/blog/2017/01/10/aca-makes-coverage-stronger-everyone-even-through-your-job.html>

Educational Materials

Below you'll find materials related to the HHS priority areas.

Zika Virus: What You Need To Know

For up-to-date information on the Zika Virus and how you can protect yourself and your loved ones, visit <http://www.hhs.gov/zika/index.html>

The Opioids Epidemic

For information about the prescription drug and heroin overdose epidemic, and to learn what HHS is doing about it, visit <http://www.hhs.gov/opioids/>

Info-Graphics

*View our **Flickr Info-Graphs** page [here](#).*

Health Insurance Marketplace

For more information about the Health Insurance Marketplace including official resources, research, news, and events visit <http://marketplace.cms.gov/>

#GetCovered: Share your story

Whether you've just enrolled in health coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace or you're benefiting from the myriad of new protections under the Affordable Care Act, tell us your story below - then ask your friends to do the same by visiting this [page](#).

Marketplace Updates

For information on how to sign up for coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace, including text message and email updates visit <http://www.healthcare.gov/marketplace/index.html>

State by State Fact Sheets

Choose your state to learn more about the immediate benefits of the Affordable Care Act,

The ACA state by state fact sheets have been updated with the most current stats available.

They can be found here: <http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/facts/bystate/statebystate.html>

Sender:	HHS IEA (OS/IEA) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4C2B7CE07DDF4F9097D038FCAF299C56-OSIGA>
Recipient:	OS - IGA Regional Directors </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df575a2d0e29445892442641c6ea1e9d-IGAREgDirs.>; OS - IEA HQTS </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

	(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=70d21f28a9b445869b97a3c1da935a48-IGA.HQTS.OS>; OS - IGA Regional Directors </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=df575a2d0e29445892442641c6ea1e9d-IGARegDirs.>
Sent Date:	2017/01/13 15:11:21
Delivered Date:	2017/01/13 15:11:23

From:	Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com>
To:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
CC:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health
Date:	2017/04/24 12:19:04
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Good Morning Allison,

This is perfect. Do you have any insight as to when it might be posted?

Thank you so much for your patience with my back and forth changes. I look forward to the FINAL FINAL.

Your HOPE Sister,
 Gessie J. Thompson
 Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
 Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
 P: 718-591-2447
 F: 646-478-9179
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[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Mon, Apr 24, 2017 at 11:48 AM, Allison Hall-Jordan
 <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for flagging the dates. We made that change.

Also, we accepted "siphoning off," but we modified the statistic to match what's in the OWH fact sheet.

Lastly, I realized this morning that your bio was still a little too long. We have a max of 43 characters.

Thanks for all your patience and flexibility. The attached post is now in the final round of OWH review. We'll be sure to keep you in the loop.

Thanks, and I hope you had a nice weekend!

Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 23, 2017 11:37 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Allison,

I hope this finds you well. One quick note: Please correct the dates for National Fibroids Awareness and National Infertility Awareness week. It's actually, April 23 to 29th.

Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:53 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Hi Allison,

Thank you so much for your edits! A few last notes:

- I understand the issue regarding the statistics but because fibroids are such a marginalized issue the awareness is extremely low. Therefore, I feel it is very important to share a statistic. Consequently, I pulled from the WomensHealth.gov fact sheet to provide that context.
- I am ok with all the changes around the "numbers" of my story but ask that if possible we keep the words "siphoning off" the blood supply rather than "cutting back" as I don't feel it's descriptive enough to truly tell what my daughter was experiencing in the womb.
- Outside of that, I have accepted the lion's share of the changes.

Thank you also for adding in the language I requested around the #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory campaign! I look forward to hearing back from you and finalizing the piece.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

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On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:17 PM, Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Attached please find the edited version of your post. I worked with Valerie to ensure that this meets OWH's style guidelines, including making edits to ensure that it's consumer-friendly.

For the statistic, we would have to include the one on womenshealth.gov. Because it's such a broad range of women impacted by fibroids, we didn't think it strengthened the post, so we recommend not including it.

Lastly, we worked in the language you provided below.

Please let me know if you have any questions about these edits. Once we get the greenlight, this can go through the final round of review at OWH.

Thanks, and have a nice weekend!

Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 3:42 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie and Alli

I hope this finds you well. I know you're still working to finalize my blog piece. I had a quick question. Next week is "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week. Can we add a line at the end of the article like this?

In observance of "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week (April 22 to 29th), we invite you to stop suffering in silence by SHARING YOUR STORY using the hashtags #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory and #NIAW #NFAW. Collectively, we will proclaim that Fibroids and Infertility matter!

I've attached a revised version of the article with this verbiage. Thank you so much!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility
Coach

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MP3](#)

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:39 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Excellent! Thank you.

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:37 PM Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks so much for following up. My apologies on the delayed response. Like Valerie mentioned in her email, I'll review this version to make sure that it coincides with OWH style. We'll be back in touch with you soon with any additional edits or changes.

Thanks!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 3:11 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Alli,

I hope this finds you well. I just want to ensure you have a version of the blog that corresponds with my response to Valerie's last email so I have attached it here. NOTE: I have also added my website to my About the Author.

For your easy reference, I have pated below my responses sent yesterday:

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as there language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when

anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan." It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million; 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

Please advise of any further updates. Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Wed, Apr 19, 2017 at 11:02 AM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Thank you for forwarding your changes to the article and I'm glad that it was more in line with your expectations and guidelines for the piece. We're almost there!

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as the language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- • Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels)
Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- • Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan."It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

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2. • The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. • 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million; 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

I hope that helps and I hope you're doing something fun! Thank you again for your help in getting it up to code! :)

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 3:22 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for the quick turnaround! This version definitely follows the direction we discussed. We made a few additional edits in the attached version. Primarily we provided more cautious language about the link between fibroids and estrogen and we removed the examples of the toxin-free products. The removal of this language helps to get the word count down closer to our preferred number of 700.

The one thing I still need from you is the citation for the stats you provide in the 3rd paragraph.

I've copied my colleague Alli on this email so please Reply to All with your citation. She will make sure this post adheres to our style guide (grammar, etc). I want to keep this moving while I'm on travel and without email access for the next two days. (Alli: I'll be back on Friday and will aim to get final OWH sign off then).

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On**
Behalf Of Gessie Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 12:50 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

My apologies. This time I'll attach the article. :)

On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 12:48 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Happy Tuesday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm back in the USA but when I close my eyes I'm back on Charles Bridge! Even on my fourth visit, Prague is a GORGEOUS city. This time we did an excursion to Karlstejn Castle, which included a horse carriage ride up the hill to the actual castle. If you go back, you definitely want to do that.

Attached is the revised article and I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- Head Shot: <https://app.box.com/s/z41oqn4z1viq4y44zsddb3ioefuvcef>
- Family
Photo: <https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s21gs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you again for your guidance. I think I got it right this time. I look forward to your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
& Fertility Coach

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www.gessiethompson.com

[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

*[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination
TeleSeminar MP3](#)*

On Fri, Apr 14, 2017 at 12:37 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I like your new approach idea as it removes any concerns we would have with providing medical recommendations.

Thanks for your specific questions. Here are my answers to each:

1. While research may suggest a link between estrogen and fibroids, it is scientifically unclear if estrogen is a causal factor. So we would prefer that you not state it as fact. You can indicate that as a result of this research you took steps to reduce your levels and discuss those.
2. Yes, you can keep in the opening quote if you remove the reference.
- 3 and 4. We are not only prohibited from promoting products, services and providers, but we also cannot give the appearance of an endorsement. That is why we cannot include your MP3 file even it is free. Yes, we can definitely link to your website in your author byline and bio!

I hope this answers your questions. In terms of a date for returning a revised version, is Tues, April 18 by 4 EST possible? I leave for work travel the next day and would like to get this put in to clearance on Tuesday before I go if possible.

Best and safe travels home,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On**
Behalf Of Gessie Thompson
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 7:21 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Yes. Prague is a beautiful city...one of my favorites!

Thank you for forwarding the revised article. Given the changes, I'd like to take a different approach to the article as you've advised--adding in what helped me personally. I will use the approach taken in the current "Becoming a PCOS Diva" article--meaning, speaking about it from a personal perspective verses a medical recommendation. A few questions:

1. • If we remove the reference to the doctors, can I still include the content around the fact that research consistently links the growth of fibroids to estrogen and from there speak to how I reduced my estrogen levels by removing the toxins out of my lifestyles through stress management, diet and exercises?
2. • I see that you removed the first two sentences of my opening quote. Can we keep it in if I simply remove the reference to the book and just use it as an opening quote?

3. • I see that you've deleted the free MP3 that I linked to the article. This is a free teleseminar that helps women learn more about the lifestyle changes they can make to help manage their fibroids. Is there a way to include this info in the article using different wording?
4. • I see that the Becoming a PCOS Diva article had two links to her website. The first was in her byline and the other in her author bio. Will this be something I can also do?

Thank you and by when do you need the revised document?

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
& Fertility Coach

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www.gessiethompson.com

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination
TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Thu, Apr 13, 2017 at 5:57 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I love Prague based on the week I spent there years ago! Hope you are getting good weather as it's a very walkable city.

I apologize for not getting back to you sooner with our edits. The attached has lots of edits but please don't be concerned. The two main things I had to remove were references to your book and the medical doctor who helped you as we are not allowed to promote products or medical professionals by name. In addition I removed the section on the 3 things every woman should know because we will link to our fact sheet on Fibroids: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/uterine-fibroids>

We are excited to hear more of your personal story. You can add how diet and exercise helped you, etc., but we cannot include specific dietary recommendations.

Please feel free to email me back with any questions or concerns.

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On**
Behalf Of Gessie Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 8:06 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm writing to check back in with you on the status of the article. Your last email indicated that you were working on the edits and would be forwarding the final for my review.

The London Women's Health event well and I'm now in Prague on vacation for the week but will be checking email to ensure that I respond to you in a timely manner.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
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On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 9:44 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Excellent. Thank you and I look forward to seeing them!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 4:34 PM Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Thanks Gessie,

I received your blog and we are putting it through review now. I'll share with you our edits once complete.

Enjoy your time in London!

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On**
Behalf Of Gessie Thompson
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 5:31 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Attached is the promised draft of my piece in support of "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" weeks (observed April 22 to 29th).

I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- Head Shot:
<https://app.box.com/s/z4loqn4z1viq4y44zsddb3ioefuvcef>
- Family Photo:
<https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s2lgs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you and I look forward to hearing your thoughts/receiving your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Thu, Mar 16, 2017 at 2:43 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I'm so pleased that you are willing to write a piece for our blog and can meet our April timetable. I look forward to receiving your draft the first week in April.

Thanks again!

Valerie Borden

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:14 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Dear Valerie,

It's a pleasure to e-meet you and thank you for your email. It would be my honor to share my story through your blog in support of "National Infertility Awareness Week" and "National Fibroids Awareness Week"--which both occur April 23 to 29th.

I will review the guidelines you've provided and submit the piece by the first week of April. I travel on April 6th to speak at a

women's health conference in the London area on April 8th so it will ideally be before then.

I look forward to working with you.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Wed, Mar 15, 2017 at 9:24 AM, Borden, Valerie
(HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Dear Gessie,

I work in the HHS Office on Women's Health and manage our blog. Jenn Bishop Crawford and Jill Wasserman shared with me your interest in providing a blog for our site for April for National Infertility Month, April 23-29. Are you able to provide me with a 500-700 word draft by early April? I need about 2 weeks for editorial review and clearance on this end. Attached are our blog guidelines that provide specific guidance. Also, feel free to view our past blog posts at:

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog>

Please contact me with any questions. We are very excited to share your story with our blog followers!

Best,

**Valerie
Borden**

**Senior Advisor, Public and Private Partnerships
Division of Strategic Communications**

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov

Main: [202-690-7650](tel:202-690-7650) | Direct: [202-205-0270](tel:202-205-0270)

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: [1-800-994-9662](tel:1-800-994-9662) | womenshealth@hhs.gov

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See-Soar-Succeed!
Gessie Thompson
President/CEO
The UpLift! Group
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(b)(6)

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gessie@upliftgroup.com
www.upliftgroup.com

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
CEO, HOPE BEYOND FIBROIDS
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
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gessie@hopebeyondfibroids.com
www.HopeBeyondFibroids.com

Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!

Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3

Sender:	Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com>
Recipient:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Sent Date:	2017/04/24 12:17:49
Delivered Date:	2017/04/24 12:19:04

From:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health
Date:	2017/04/24 17:51:27
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Of course!

As for feedback, the sooner the better. We generally give them two days, so I'd say Wednesday morning would be best.

Thanks!!

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <valerie.borden@hhs.gov>
 Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 2:49 PM
 Subject: RE: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health
 To: Allison Hall-Jordan <ahalljordan@hagerssharp.com>

Thanks so much for your help with this. I gave the Jenn and let her know of all the back n forth on this and that I need it approved by Wed if we are to post on Friday.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [Allison Hall-Jordan
[\[mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com\]](mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com)
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 11:49 AM
To: Gessie Thompson
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for flagging the dates. We made that change.

Also, we accepted "siphoning off," but we modified the statistic to match what's in the OWH fact sheet.

Lastly, I realized this morning that your bio was still a little too long. We have a max of 43 characters.

Thanks for all your patience and flexibility. The attached post is now in the final round of OWH review. We'll be sure to keep you in the loop.

Thanks, and I hope you had a nice weekend!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [<mailto:info@gessiethompson.com>]
Sent: Sunday, April 23, 2017 11:37 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Allison,

I hope this finds you well. One quick note: Please correct the dates for National Fibroids Awareness and National Infertility Awareness week. It's actually, April 23 to 29th.

Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
P: 718-591-2447
F: 646-478-9179
info@gessiethompson.com
www.gessiethompson.com

[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:53 PM, Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:
Hi Allison,

Thank you so much for your edits! A few last notes:

- I understand the issue regarding the statistics but because fibroids are such a marginalized issue the awareness is extremely low. Therefore, I feel it is very important to share a statistic. Consequently, I pulled from the WomensHealth.gov fact sheet to provide that context.

- I am ok with all the changes around the "numbers" of my story but ask that if possible we keep the words "siphoning off" the blood supply rather than "cutting back" as I don't feel it's descriptive enough to truly tell what my daughter was experiencing in the womb.
- Outside of that, I have accepted the lion's share of the changes.

Thank you also for adding in the language I requested around the #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory campaign! I look forward to hearing back from you and finalizing the piece.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:17 PM, Allison Hall-Jordan

<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Attached please find the edited version of your post. I worked with Valerie to ensure that this meets OWH's style guidelines, including making edits to ensure that it's consumer-friendly.

For the statistic, we would have to include the one on womenshealth.gov. Because it's such a broad range of women impacted by fibroids, we didn't think it strengthened the post, so we recommend not including it.

Lastly, we worked in the language you provided below.

Please let me know if you have any questions about these edits. Once we get the greenlight, this can go through the final round of review at OWH.

Thanks, and have a nice weekend!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]

Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 3:42 PM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie and Alli

I hope this finds you well. I know you're still working to finalize my blog piece. I had a quick question. Next week is "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week. Can we add a line at the end of the article like this?

In observance of "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week (April 22 to 29th), we invite you to stop suffering in silence by SHARING YOUR STORY using the hashtags #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory and #NIAW #NFAW. Collectively, we will proclaim that Fibroids and Infertility matter!

I've attached a revised version of the article with this verbiage. Thank you so much!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:39 PM, Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Excellent! Thank you.

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:37 PM Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks so much for following up. My apologies on the delayed response. Like Valerie mentioned in her email, I'll review this version to make sure that it coincides with OWH style. We'll be back in touch with you soon with any additional edits or changes.

Thanks!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 3:11 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Alli,

I hope this finds you well. I just want to ensure you have a version of the blog that corresponds with my response to Valerie's last email so I have attached it here. NOTE: I have also added my website to my About the Author.

For your easy reference, I have pated below my responses sent yesterday:

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as there language of the studies—including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan."It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million;
 - 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

Please advise of any further updates. Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility
Coach
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www.gessiethompson.com

[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

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TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Wed, Apr 19, 2017 at 11:02 AM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Thank you for forwarding your changes to the article and I'm glad that it was more in line with your expectations and guidelines for the piece. We're almost there!

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as the language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- • Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels)
Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- • Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it:
"Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan."It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. • My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. • The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. • 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million; 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

I hope that helps and I hope you're doing something fun! Thank you again for your help in getting it up to code! :)

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
& Fertility Coach
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On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 3:22 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for the quick turnaround! This version definitely follows the direction we discussed. We made a few additional edits in the attached version.

Primarily we provided more cautious language about the link between fibroids and estrogen and we removed the examples of the toxin-free products. The removal of this language helps to get the word count down closer to our preferred number of 700.

The one thing I still need from you is the citation for the stats you provide in the 3rd paragraph.

I've copied my colleague Alli on this email so please Reply to All with your citation. She will make sure this post adheres to our style guide (grammar, etc). I want to keep this moving while I'm on travel and without email access for the next two days. (Alli: I'll be back on Friday and will aim to get final OWH sign off then).

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 12:50 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

My apologies. This time I'll attach the article. :)

On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 12:48 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:
Happy Tuesday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm back in the USA but when I close my eyes I'm back on Charles Bridge! Even on my fourth visit, Prague is a GORGEOUS city. This time we did an excursion to Karlstejn Castle, which included a horse carriage ride up the hill to the actual castle. If you go back, you definitely want to do that.

Attached is the revised article and I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- Head Shot: <https://app.box.com/s/z41oqn4z1viq4y44zsddb3ioefuvcef>
- Family Photo: <https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s21gs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you again for your guidance. I think I got it right this time. I look forward to your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
& Fertility Coach
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[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

*[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination
TeleSeminar MP3](#)*

On Fri, Apr 14, 2017 at 12:37 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:
Hi Gessie,

I like your new approach idea as it removes any concerns we would have
with providing medical recommendations.

Thanks for your specific questions. Here are my answers to each:

1. While research may suggest a link between estrogen and fibroids, it is scientifically unclear if estrogen is a causal factor. So we would prefer that you not state it as fact. You can indicate that as a result of this research you took steps to reduce your levels and discuss those.
2. Yes, you can keep in the opening quote if you remove the reference.
- 3 and 4. We are not only prohibited from promoting products, services and providers, but we also cannot give the appearance of an endorsement. That is why we cannot include your MP3 file even it is free. Yes, we can definitely link to your website in your author byline and bio!

I hope this answers your questions. In terms of a date for returning a revised version, is Tues, April 18 by 4 EST possible? I leave for work travel the next day and would like to get this put in to clearance on Tuesday before I go if possible.

Best and safe travels home,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf
Of** Gessie Thompson

Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 7:21 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Yes. Prague is a beautiful city...one of my favorites!

Thank you for forwarding the revised article. Given the changes, I'd like to take a different approach to the article as you've advised--adding in what helped me personally. I will use the approach taken in the current "Becoming a PCOS Diva" article--meaning, speaking about it from a personal perspective verses a medical recommendation. A few questions:

1. • If we remove the reference to the doctors, can I still include the content around the fact that research consistently links the growth of fibroids to estrogen and from there speak to how I reduced my estrogen levels by removing the toxins out of my lifestyles through stress management, diet and exercises?
2. • I see that you removed the first two sentences of my opening quote. Can we keep it in if I simply remove the reference to the book and just use it as an opening quote?
3. • I see that you've deleted the free MP3 that I linked to the article. This is a free teleseminar that helps women learn more about the lifestyle changes they can make to help manage their fibroids. Is there a way to include this info in the article using different wording?
4. • I see that the Becoming a PCOS Diva article had two links to her website. The first was in her byline and the other in her author bio. Will this be something I can also do?

Thank you and by when do you need the revised document?

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
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On Thu, Apr 13, 2017 at 5:57 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:
Hi Gessie,

I love Prague based on the week I spent there years ago! Hope you are getting good weather as it's a very walkable city.

I apologize for not getting back to you sooner with our edits. The attached has lots of edits but please don't be concerned. The two main things I had to remove were references to your book and the medical doctor who helped you as we are not allowed to promote products or medical professionals by name. In addition I removed the section on the 3 things every woman should know because we will link to our fact sheet on Fibroids:
<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/uterine-fibroids>

We are excited to hear more of your personal story. You can add how diet and exercise helped you, etc., but we cannot include specific dietary recommendations.

Please feel free to email me back with any questions or concerns.

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 8:06 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm writing to check back in with you on the status of the article. Your last email indicated that you were working on the edits and would be forwarding the final for my review.

The London Women's Health event well and I'm now in Prague on vacation for the week but will be checking email to ensure that I respond to you in a timely manner.

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
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TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 9:44 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:
Hi Valerie,

Excellent. Thank you and I look forward to seeing them!

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 4:34 PM Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Thanks Gessie,

I received your blog and we are putting it through review now. I'll share
with you our edits once complete.

Enjoy your time in London!

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On**
Behalf Of Gessie Thompson
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 5:31 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Attached is the promised draft of my piece in support of "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" weeks (observed April 22 to 29th).

I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- Head Shot:
<https://app.box.com/s/z41oqn4z1viq4y44zsddbi3ioefuvcef>
- Family Photo:
<https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s2lgs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you and I look forward to hearing your thoughts/receiving your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination
TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Thu, Mar 16, 2017 at 2:43 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:
Hi Gessie,

I'm so pleased that you are willing to write a piece for our blog and can meet our April timetable. I look forward to receiving your draft the first week in April.

Thanks again!

Valerie Borden

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:14 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Dear Valerie,

It's a pleasure to e-meet you and thank you for your email. It would be my honor to share my story through your blog in support of "National Infertility Awareness Week" and "National Fibroids Awareness Week"--which both occur April 23 to 29th.

I will review the guidelines you've provided and submit the piece by the first week of April. I travel on April 6th to speak at a women's health conference in the London area on April 8th so it will ideally be before then.

I look forward to working with you.

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
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Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
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TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Wed, Mar 15, 2017 at 9:24 AM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:
Dear Gessie,

I work in the HHS Office on Women's Health and manage our blog. Jenn Bishop Crawford and Jill Wasserman shared with me your interest in providing a blog for our site for April for National

Infertility Month, April 23-29. Are you able to provide me with a 500-700 word draft by early April? I need about 2 weeks for editorial review and clearance on this end. Attached are our blog guidelines that provide specific guidance. Also, feel free to view our past blog posts at: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog>

Please contact me with any questions. We are very excited to share your story with our blog followers!

Best,

Valerie

Borden

**Senior Advisor, Public and Private Partnerships
Division of Strategic Communications**

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov

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Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: [1-800-994-9662](tel:1-800-994-9662) | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

—
See-Soar-Succeed

Gessie Thompson

President/CEO

The UpLift! Group

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Your HOPE Sister,
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Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!

Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3

Sender:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Recipient:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Sent Date:	2017/04/24 17:50:56
Delivered Date:	2017/04/24 17:51:27

From:	Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com>
SentVia:	<admin@upliftgroup.com>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	QUESTION: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health
Date:	2017/10/19 19:01:28
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you thriving. I wanted to check in with you regarding the blog I wrote for WomensHeathh.gov earlier this year. I'm writing a piece for a website called [The Mighty](#) and want to use an edited version of that piece.

Do we have permission to do so? I don't remember if there were any restrictions related to the blog. Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
CEO, Hope Beyond Fibroids
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Nutritional Health Coach, Speaker, Author & Fibroids Activist
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(b)(6)

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[*Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!*](#)

[*Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3*](#)

On Fri, Apr 28, 2017 at 8:59 AM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Your blog post is live! Thanks so much for working with us to present this important topic to our followers. Feel free to promote the blog over your channels!

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog/hope-beyond-fibroids>

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 12:40 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Ok. Crossing my fingers that we'll be able to get it up while we're still in Fibroids & Infertility Awareness Week!

On Mon, Apr 24, 2017 at 12:37 PM Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com> wrote:

Great, thank you!

We expect it to go up by the end of the week. We'll definitely keep you in the loop. Thanks!

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 12:18 PM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Good Morning Allison,

This is perfect. Do you have any insight as to when it might be posted?

Thank you so much for your patience with my back and forth changes. I look forward to the FINAL FINAL.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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On Mon, Apr 24, 2017 at 11:48 AM, Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for flagging the dates. We made that change.

Also, we accepted "siphoning off," but we modified the statistic to match what's in the OWH fact sheet.

Lastly, I realized this morning that your bio was still a little too long. We have a max of 43 characters.

Thanks for all your patience and flexibility. The attached post is now in the final round of OWH review. We'll be sure to keep you in the loop.

Thanks, and I hope you had a nice weekend!

Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 23, 2017 11:37 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Allison,

I hope this finds you well. One quick note: Please correct the dates for National Fibroids Awareness and National Infertility Awareness week. It's actually, April 23 to 29th.

Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

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On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:53 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Hi Allison,

Thank you so much for your edits! A few last notes:

- • I understand the issue regarding the statistics but because fibroids are such a marginalized issue the awareness is extremely low. Therefore, I feel it is very important to share a statistic. Consequently, I pulled from the WomensHealth.gov fact sheet to provide that context.
- • I am ok with all the changes around the "numbers" of my story but ask that if possible we keep the words "siphoning off" the blood supply rather than "cutting back" as I don't feel it's descriptive enough to truly tell what my daughter was experiencing in the womb.
- • Outside of that, I have accepted the lion's share of the changes.

Thank you also for adding in the language I requested around the #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory campaign! I look forward to hearing back from you and finalizing the piece.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

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On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:17 PM, Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Attached please find the edited version of your post. I worked with Valerie to ensure that this meets OWH's style guidelines, including making edits to ensure that it's consumer-friendly.

For the statistic, we would have to include the one on womenshealth.gov. Because it's such a broad range of women impacted by fibroids, we didn't think it strengthened the post, so we recommend not including it.

Lastly, we worked in the language you provided below.

Please let me know if you have any questions about these edits. Once we get the greenlight, this can go through the final round of review at OWH.

Thanks, and have a nice weekend!

Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 3:42 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie and Alli

I hope this finds you well. I know you're still working to finalize my blog piece. I had a quick question. Next week is "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week. Can we add a line at the end of the article like this?

In observance of "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week (April 22 to 29th), we invite you to stop suffering in silence by SHARING YOUR STORY using the hashtags #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory and #NIAW #NFAW. Collectively, we will proclaim that Fibroids and Infertility matter!

I've attached a revised version of the article with this verbiage. Thank you so much!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:39 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Excellent! Thank you.

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:37 PM Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks so much for following up. My apologies on the delayed response. Like Valerie mentioned in her email, I'll review this version to make sure that it coincides with OWH style. We'll be back in touch with you soon with any additional edits or changes.

Thanks!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 3:11 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Alli,

I hope this finds you well. I just want to ensure you have a version of the blog that corresponds with my response to Valerie's last email

so I have attached it here. NOTE: I have also added my website to my About the Author.

For your easy reference, I have pated below my responses sent yesterday:

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as there language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- Hormonal (affected by estrogen and progesterone levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan."It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million; 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

Please advise of any further updates. Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
& Fertility Coach

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TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Wed, Apr 19, 2017 at 11:02 AM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Thank you for forwarding your changes to the article and I'm glad that it was more in line with your expectations and guidelines for the piece. We're almost there!

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel

the language used may be a bit too cautious as the language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- • Hormonal (affected by estrogen and progesterone levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- • Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan." It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. • My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. • The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. • 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million; 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

I hope that helps and I hope you're doing something fun! Thank you again for your help in getting it up to code! :)

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 3:22 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for the quick turnaround! This version definitely follows the direction we discussed. We made a few additional edits in the attached version. Primarily we provided more cautious language about the link between fibroids and estrogen and we removed the examples of the toxin-free products. The removal of this language helps to get the word count down closer to our preferred number of 700.

The one thing I still need from you is the citation for the stats you provide in the 3rd paragraph.

I've copied my colleague Alli on this email so please Reply to All with your citation. She will make sure this post adheres to our style guide (grammar, etc). I want to keep this moving while I'm on travel and without email access for the next two days. (Alli: I'll be back on Friday and will aim to get final OWH sign off then).

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com]
On Behalf Of Gessie Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 12:50 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

My apologies. This time I'll attach the article. :)

On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 12:48 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Happy Tuesday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm back in the USA but when I close my eyes I'm back on Charles Bridge! Even on my fourth visit, Prague is a GORGEOUS city.. This time we did an excursion to Karlstejn Castle, which included a horse carriage ride up the hill to the actual castle. If you go back, you definitely want to do that.

Attached is the revised article and I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- Head

Shot: <https://app.box.com/s/z41oqn4z1viq4y44zsddbi3ioefuvcef>

- Family

Photo: <https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s21gs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you again for your guidance. I think I got it right this time. I look forward to your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids
Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author
&Fibroids &Fertility Coach

P: [718-591-2447](tel:718-591-2447)

F: [646-478-9179](tel:646-478-9179)

info@gessiethompson.com

www.gessiethompson.com

[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

*Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids
Elimination TeleSeminar MP3*

On Fri, Apr 14, 2017 at 12:37 PM, Borden, Valerie
(HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I like your new approach idea as it removes any concerns we would
have with providing medical recommendations.

Thanks for your specific questions. Here are my answers to each:

1. While research may suggest a link between estrogen and
fibroids, it is scientifically unclear if estrogen is a causal factor. So
we would prefer that you not state it as fact. You can indicate that
as a result of this research you took steps to reduce your levels and
discuss those.

2. Yes, you can keep in the opening quote if you remove the
reference.

3 and 4. We are not only prohibited from promoting products,
services and providers, but we also cannot give the appearance of
an endorsement. That is why we cannot include your MP3 file even
it is free. Yes, we can definitely link to your website in your author
byline and bio!

I hope this answers your questions. In terms of a date for returning
a revised version, is Tues, April 18 by 4 EST possible? I leave for
work travel the next day and would like to get this put in to
clearance on Tuesday before I go if possible.

Best and safe travels home,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com]
On Behalf Of Gessie Thompson
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 7:21 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Yes. Prague is a beautiful city...one of my favorites!

Thank you for forwarding the revised article. Given the changes, I'd like to take a different approach to the article as you've advised--adding in what helped me personally. I will use the approach taken in the current "Becoming a PCOS Diva" article--meaning, speaking about it from a personal perspective verses a medical recommendation. A few questions:

1. • If we remove the reference to the doctors, can I still include the content around the fact that research consistently links the growth of fibroids to estrogen and from there speak to how I reduced my estrogen levels by removing the toxins out of my lifestyles through stress management, diet and exercises?
2. • I see that you removed the first two sentences of my opening quote. Can we keep it in if I simply remove the reference to the book and just use it as an opening quote?
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to help manage their fibroids. Is there a way to include this info in the article using different wording?

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Thank you and by when do you need the revised document?

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I apologize for not getting back to you sooner with our edits. The attached has lots of edits but please don't be concerned. The two main things I had to remove were references to your book and the medical doctor who helped you as we are not allowed to promote products or medical professionals by name. In addition I removed the section on the 3 things every woman should know because we will link to our fact sheet on Fibroids:

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/uterine-fibroids>

We are excited to hear more of your personal story. You can add how diet and exercise helped you, etc., but we cannot include specific dietary recommendations.

Please feel free to email me back with any questions or concerns.

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com]

On Behalf Of Gessie Thompson

Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 8:06 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm writing to check back in with you on the status of the article. Your last email indicated that you were working on the edits and would be forwarding the final for my review.

The London Women's Health event well and I'm now in Prague on vacation for the week but will be checking email to ensure that I respond to you in a timely manner.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

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On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 9:44 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Excellent. Thank you and I look forward to seeing them!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 4:34 PM Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Thanks Gessie,

I received your blog and we are putting it through review now. I'll share with you our edits once complete.

Enjoy your time in London!

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com]

On Behalf Of Gessie Thompson

Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 5:31 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

--
See-Soar-Succeed ☐,
Gessie Thompson
President/CEO

The UpLift! Group
P: [718-591-2447](tel:718-591-2447)
M: [917-535-0809](tel:917-535-0809)
F: [646-478-9179](tel:646-478-9179)
gessie@upliftgroup.com
www.upliftgroup.com

Sender:	Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com>; <admin@upliftgroup.com>
Recipient:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Sent Date:	2017/10/19 19:01:00
Delivered Date:	2017/10/19 19:01:28

From:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
To:	Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com>
CC:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	RE: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health
Date:	2017/04/24 12:38:03
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Great, thank you!

We expect it to go up by the end of the week. We'll definitely keep you in the loop. Thanks!

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 12:18 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Good Morning Allison,

This is perfect. Do you have any insight as to when it might be posted?

Thank you so much for your patience with my back and forth changes. I look forward to the FINAL FINAL.

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Mon, Apr 24, 2017 at 11:48 AM, Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagersharp.com> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for flagging the dates. We made that change.

Also, we accepted "siphoning off," but we modified the statistic to match what's in the OWH fact sheet.

Lastly, I realized this morning that your bio was still a little too long. We have a max of 43 characters.

Thanks for all your patience and flexibility. The attached post is now in the final round of OWH review. We'll be sure to keep you in the loop.

Thanks, and I hope you had a nice weekend!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 23, 2017 11:37 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Allison,

I hope this finds you well. One quick note: Please correct the dates for National Fibroids Awareness and National Infertility Awareness week. It's actually, April 23 to 29th.

Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
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On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:53 PM, Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Hi Allison,

Thank you so much for your edits! A few last notes:

- • I understand the issue regarding the statistics but because fibroids are such a marginalized issue the awareness is extremely low. Therefore, I feel it is very important to share a statistic. Consequently, I pulled from the WomensHealth.gov fact sheet to provide that context.
- • I am ok with all the changes around the "numbers" of my story but ask that if possible we keep the words "siphoning off" the blood supply rather than "cutting back" as I don't feel it's descriptive enough to truly tell what my daughter was experiencing in the womb.
- • Outside of that, I have accepted the lion's share of the changes.

Thank you also for adding in the language I requested around the #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory campaign! I look forward to hearing back from you and finalizing the piece.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

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On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:17 PM, Allison Hall-Jordan

<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Attached please find the edited version of your post. I worked with Valerie to ensure that this meets OWH's style guidelines, including making edits to ensure that it's consumer-friendly.

For the statistic, we would have to include the one on womenshealth.gov. Because it's such a broad range of women impacted by fibroids, we didn't think it strengthened the post, so we recommend not including it.

Lastly, we worked in the language you provided below.

Please let me know if you have any questions about these edits. Once we get the greenlight, this can go through the final round of review at OWH.

Thanks, and have a nice weekend!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 3:42 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie and Alli

I hope this finds you well. I know you're still working to finalize my blog piece. I had a quick question. Next week is "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week. Can we add a line at the end of the article like this?

In observance of "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week (April 22 to 29th), we invite you to stop suffering in silence by SHARING YOUR STORY using the hashtags #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory and #NIAW #NFAW. Collectively, we will proclaim that Fibroids and Infertility matter!

I've attached a revised version of the article with this verbiage. Thank you so much!

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:39 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Excellent! Thank you.

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:37 PM Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks so much for following up. My apologies on the delayed response. Like Valerie mentioned in her email, I'll review this version to make sure that it coincides with OWH style. We'll be back in touch with you soon with any additional edits or changes.

Thanks!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 3:11 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Alli,

I hope this finds you well. I just want to ensure you have a version of the blog that corresponds with my response to Valerie's last email so I have attached it here. NOTE: I have also added my website to my About the Author.

For your easy reference, I have pated below my responses sent yesterday:

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as there language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- Hormonal (affected by estrogen and progesterone levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan."It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million; 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

Please advise of any further updates. Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
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Coach
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On Wed, Apr 19, 2017 at 11:02 AM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Thank you for forwarding your changes to the article and I'm glad that it was more in line with your expectations and guidelines for the piece. We're almost there!

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as there language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- • Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
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 1. • 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million; 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

I hope that helps and I hope you're doing something fun! Thank you again for your help in getting it up to code! :)

Your HOPE Sister,

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On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 3:22 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for the quick turnaround! This version definitely follows the direction we discussed. We made a few additional edits in the attached version. Primarily we provided more cautious language about the link between fibroids and estrogen

and we removed the examples of the toxin-free products. The removal of this language helps to get the word count down closer to our preferred number of 700.

The one thing I still need from you is the citation for the stats you provide in the 3rd paragraph.

I've copied my colleague Alli on this email so please Reply to All with your citation. She will make sure this post adheres to our style guide (grammar, etc). I want to keep this moving while I'm on travel and without email access for the next two days. (Alli: I'll be back on Friday and will aim to get final OWH sign off then).

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 12:50 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

My apologies. This time I'll attach the article. :)

On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 12:48 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:
Happy Tuesday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm back in the USA but when I close my eyes I'm back on Charles Bridge! Even on my fourth visit, Prague is a GORGEOUS city. This time we did an excursion to Karlstejn Castle, which included a horse carriage ride up the hill to the actual castle. If you go back, you definitely want to do that.

Attached is the revised article and I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- Head Shot: <https://app.box.com/s/z41oqn4z1viq4y44zsddbi3ioefuvcef>
- Family Photo: <https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s21gs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you again for your guidance. I think I got it right this time. I look forward to your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
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Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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2. Yes, you can keep in the opening quote if you remove the reference.
- 3 and 4. We are not only prohibited from promoting products, services and providers, but we also cannot give the appearance of an endorsement. That is why we cannot include your MP3 file even it is free. Yes, we can definitely link to your website in your author byline and bio!

I hope this answers your questions. In terms of a date for returning a revised version, is Tues, April 18 by 4 EST possible? I leave for work travel the next day and would like to get this put in to clearance on Tuesday before I go if possible.

Best and safe travels home,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson

Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 7:21 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

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We are excited to hear more of your personal story. You can add how diet and exercise helped you, etc., but we cannot include specific dietary recommendations.

Please feel free to email me back with any questions or concerns.

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of**
Gessie Thompson

Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 8:06 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm writing to check back in with you on the status of the article. Your last email indicated that you were working on the edits and would be forwarding the final for my review.

The London Women's Health event well and I'm now in Prague on vacation for the week but will be checking email to ensure that I respond to you in a timely manner.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

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Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie

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Thanks Gessie,

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Enjoy your time in London!

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson

Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 5:31 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Attached is the promised draft of my piece in support of "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" weeks (observed April 22 to 29th).

I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- Head Shot:
<https://app.box.com/s/z41oqn4z1viq4y44zsddb3ioefuvcef>
- Family Photo:
<https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s21gs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you and I look forward to hearing your thoughts/receiving your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
& Fertility Coach
P: [718-591-2447](tel:718-591-2447)
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www.gessiethompson.com

[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

*[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination
TeleSeminar MP3](#)*

On Thu, Mar 16, 2017 at 2:43 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I'm so pleased that you are willing to write a piece for our blog and can meet our April timetable. I look forward to receiving your draft the first week in April.

Thanks again!

Valerie Borden

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:14 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Dear Valerie,

It's a pleasure to e-meet you and thank you for your email. It would be my honor to share my story through your blog in support of "National Infertility Awareness Week" and "National Fibroids Awareness Week"-- which both occur April 23 to 29th.

I will review the guidelines you've provided and submit the piece by the first week of April. I travel on April 6th to speak at a women's health conference in the London area on April 8th so it will ideally be before then.

I look forward to working with you.

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
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TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Wed, Mar 15, 2017 at 9:24 AM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:
Dear Gessie,

I work in the HHS Office on Women's Health and manage our blog. Jenn Bishop Crawford and Jill Wasserman shared with me your interest in providing a blog for our site for April for National Infertility Month, April 23-29. Are you able to provide me with a 500-700 word draft by early April? I need about 2 weeks for editorial review and clearance on this end. Attached are our blog guidelines that provide

specific guidance. Also, feel free to view our past blog posts at:
<https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog>

Please contact me with any questions. We are very excited to share your story with our blog followers!

Best,

**Valerie
Borden**

**Senior Advisor, Public and Private Partnerships
Division of Strategic Communications**

**Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov
Main: [202-690-7650](tel:202-690-7650) | Direct: [202-205-0270](tel:202-205-0270)
Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: [1-800-994-9662](tel:1-800-994-9662) | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

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See-Soar-Succeed
Gessie Thompson
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The UpLift! Group
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(b)(6)
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gessie@upliftgroup.com
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--
Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
CEO, HOPE BEYOND FIBROIDS ☐

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Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!

Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3

Sender:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Recipient:	Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Sent Date:	2017/04/24 12:37:12
Delivered Date:	2017/04/24 12:38:03

From:	Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
CC:	Allison Hall-Jordan (AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com) <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject:	Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health
Date:	2017/04/28 10:55:41
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

I'm sharing it with my network now. Could you please make sure to have your social media team tag me when your office posts it? I'm @gessieTUG on Instagram and Twitter. And, Gessie Thompson on Facebook.

Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
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On Fri, Apr 28, 2017 at 9:56 AM, Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Excellent! Thank you!

Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
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www.gessiethompson.com

Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!

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On Fri, Apr 28, 2017 at 8:59 AM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Your blog post is live! Thanks so much for working with us to present this important topic to our followers. Feel free to promote the blog over your channels!

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog/hope-beyond-fibroids>

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 12:40 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Ok. Crossing my fingers that we'll be able to get it up while we're still in Fibroids & Infertility Awareness Week!

On Mon, Apr 24, 2017 at 12:37 PM Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>wrote:

Great, thank you!

We expect it to go up by the end of the week. We'll definitely keep you in the loop.
Thanks!

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]

Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 12:18 PM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Good Morning Allison,

This is perfect. Do you have any insight as to when it might be posted?

Thank you so much for your patience with my back and forth changes. I look forward to the FINAL FINAL.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility
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On Mon, Apr 24, 2017 at 11:48 AM, Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for flagging the dates. We made that change.

Also, we accepted "siphoning off," but we modified the statistic to match what's in the OWH fact sheet.

Lastly, I realized this morning that your bio was still a little too long. We have a max of 43 characters.

Thanks for all your patience and flexibility. The attached post is now in the final round of OWH review. We'll be sure to keep you in the loop.

Thanks, and I hope you had a nice weekend!

Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 23, 2017 11:37 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Allison,

I hope this finds you well. One quick note: Please correct the dates for National Fibroids Awareness and National Infertility Awareness week. It's actually, April 23 to 29th.

Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

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MP3*

On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:53 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Hi Allison,

Thank you so much for your edits! A few last notes:

- I understand the issue regarding the statistics but because fibroids are such a marginalized issue the awareness is extremely low. Therefore, I feel it is very important to share a statistic. Consequently, I pulled from the WomensHealth.gov fact sheet to provide that context.
- I am ok with all the changes around the "numbers" of my story but ask that if possible we keep the words "siphoning off" the blood supply rather than "cutting back" as I don't feel it's descriptive enough to truly tell what my daughter was experiencing in the womb.
- Outside of that, I have accepted the lion's share of the changes.

Thank you also for adding in the language I requested around the #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory campaign! I look forward to hearing back from you and finalizing the piece.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:17 PM, Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Attached please find the edited version of your post. I worked with Valerie to ensure that this meets OWH's style guidelines, including making edits to ensure that it's consumer-friendly.

For the statistic, we would have to include the one on womenshealth.gov. Because it's such a broad range of women impacted by fibroids, we didn't think it strengthened the post, so we recommend not including it.

Lastly, we worked in the language you provided below.

Please let me know if you have any questions about these edits. Once we get the greenlight, this can go through the final round of review at OWH.

Thanks, and have a nice weekend!

Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 3:42 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie and Alli

I hope this finds you well. I know you're still working to finalize my blog piece. I had a quick question. Next week is "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week. Can we add a line at the end of the article like this?

In observance of "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week (April 22 to 29th), we invite you to stop suffering in silence by SHARING YOUR STORY using the hashtags #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory and #NIAW #NFAW. Collectively, we will proclaim that Fibroids and Infertility matter!

I've attached a revised version of the article with this verbiage. Thank you so much!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
& Fertility Coach

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TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:39 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Excellent! Thank you.

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:37 PM Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagersharp.com> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks so much for following up. My apologies on the delayed response. Like Valerie mentioned in her email, I'll review this version to make sure that it coincides with OWH style. We'll be back in touch with you soon with any additional edits or changes.

Thanks!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 3:11 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Alli,

I hope this finds you well. I just want to ensure you have a version of the blog that corresponds with my response to Valerie's last email so I have attached it here. NOTE: I have also added my website to my About the Author.

For your easy reference, I have pated below my responses sent yesterday:

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as there language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan."It

does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>

2. The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:

1. 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million; 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

Please advise of any further updates. Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Wed, Apr 19, 2017 at 11:02 AM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Thank you for forwarding your changes to the article and I'm glad that it was more in line with your expectations and guidelines for the piece. We're almost there!

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as there language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- • Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- • Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan."It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. • My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. • The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. • 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million; 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

I hope that helps and I hope you're doing something fun!
Thank you again for your help in getting it up to code! :)

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids
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Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 3:22 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for the quick turnaround! This version definitely follows the direction we discussed. We made a few additional edits in the attached version. Primarily we provided more cautious language about the link between fibroids and estrogen and we removed the examples of the toxin-free products. The removal of this language helps to get the word count down closer to our preferred number of 700.

The one thing I still need from you is the citation for the stats you provide in the 3rd paragraph.

I've copied my colleague Alli on this email so please Reply to All with your citation. She will make sure this post adheres to our style guide (grammar, etc). I want to keep this moving while I'm on travel and without email access for the next two days. (Alli: I'll be back on Friday and will aim to get final OWH sign off then).

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com]
On Behalf Of Gessie Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 12:50 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

My apologies. This time I'll attach the article. :)

On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 12:48 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Happy Tuesday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm back in the USA but when I close my eyes I'm back on Charles Bridge! Even on my fourth visit, Prague is a GORGEOUS city. This time we did an excursion to Karlstejn Castle, which included a horse carriage ride up the hill to the actual castle. If you go back, you definitely want to do that.

Attached is the revised article and I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- Head

Shot: <https://app.box.com/s/z41oqn4z1viq4y44zsddb3ioefuvce>
[f](#)

- Family

Photo: <https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s21gs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you again for your guidance. I think I got it right this time. I look forward to your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids
Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author
&Fibroids &Fertility Coach

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids
Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Fri, Apr 14, 2017 at 12:37 PM, Borden, Valerie
(HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I like your new approach idea as it removes any concerns we
would have with providing medical recommendations.

Thanks for your specific questions. Here are my answers to each:

1. While research may suggest a link between estrogen and fibroids, it is scientifically unclear if estrogen is a causal factor. So we would prefer that you not state it as fact. You can indicate that as a result of this research you took steps to reduce your levels and discuss those.
2. Yes, you can keep in the opening quote if you remove the reference.

3 and 4. We are not only prohibited from promoting products, services and providers, but we also cannot give the appearance of an endorsement. That is why we cannot include your MP3 file even it is free. Yes, we can definitely link to your website in your author byline and bio!

I hope this answers your questions. In terms of a date for returning a revised version, is Tues, April 18 by 4 EST possible? I leave for work travel the next day and would like to get this put in to clearance on Tuesday before I go if possible.

Best and safe travels home,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com]
On Behalf Of Gessie Thompson
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 7:21 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Yes. Prague is a beautiful city...one of my favorites!

Thank you for forwarding the revised article. Given the changes, I'd like to take a different approach to the article as

you've advised--adding in what helped me personally. I will use the approach taken in the current "Becoming a PCOS Diva" article--meaning, speaking about it from a personal perspective verses a medical recommendation. A few questions:

1. • If we remove the reference to the doctors, can I still include the content around the fact that research consistently links the growth of fibroids to estrogen and from there speak to how I reduced my estrogen levels by removing the toxins out of my lifestyles through stress management, diet and exercises?
2. • I see that you removed the first two sentences of my opening quote. Can we keep it in if I simply remove the reference to the book and just use it as an opening quote?
3. • I see that you've deleted the free MP3 that I linked to the article. This is a free teleseminar that helps women learn more about the lifestyle changes they can make to help manage their fibroids. Is there a way to include this info in the article using different wording?
4. • I see that the Becoming a PCOS Diva article had two links to her website. The first was in her byline and the other in her author bio. Will this be something I can also do?

Thank you and by when do you need the revised document?

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids
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Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author
&Fibroids &Fertility Coach

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Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!

Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3

On Thu, Apr 13, 2017 at 5:57 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I love Prague based on the week I spent there years ago! Hope you are getting good weather as it's a very walkable city.

I apologize for not getting back to you sooner with our edits. The attached has lots of edits but please don't be concerned. The two main things I had to remove were references to your book and the medical doctor who helped you as we are not allowed to promote products or medical professionals by name. In addition I removed the section on the 3 things every woman should know because we will link to our fact sheet on Fibroids: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/uterine-fibroids>

We are excited to hear more of your personal story. You can add how diet and exercise helped you, etc., but we cannot include specific dietary recommendations.

Please feel free to email me back with any questions or concerns.

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com]
On Behalf Of Gessie Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 8:06 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm writing to check back in with you on the status of the article. Your last email indicated that you were working on the edits and would be forwarding the final for my review.

The London Women's Health event well and I'm now in Prague on vacation for the week but will be checking email to ensure that I respond to you in a timely manner.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids
Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author
& Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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F: [646-478-9179](tel:646-478-9179)

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www.gessiethompson.com

[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 9:44 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Excellent. Thank you and I look forward to seeing them!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 4:34 PM Borden, Valerie
(HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Thanks Gessie,

I received your blog and we are putting it through review now. I'll share with you our edits once complete.

Enjoy your time in London!

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com
[mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 5:31 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

--
See-Soar-Succeed ☐,
Gessie Thompson
President/CEO
The UpLift! Group
P: [718-591-2447](tel:718-591-2447)
(b)(6)
F: [646-478-9179](tel:646-478-9179)
gessie@upliftgroup.com
www.upliftgroup.com

Sender:	Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com>
Recipient:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>; Allison Hall-Jordan (AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com) <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Sent Date:	2017/04/28 10:54:35
Delivered Date:	2017/04/28 10:55:41

From:	Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
CC:	Allison Hall-Jordan (AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com) <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject:	Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health
Date:	2017/04/28 09:57:38
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Excellent! Thank you!

Gessie J. Thompson
 Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
 Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
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 F: 646-478-9179
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[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Fri, Apr 28, 2017 at 8:59 AM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
 <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Your blog post is live! Thanks so much for working with us to present this important topic to our followers. Feel free to promote the blog over your channels!

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog/hope-beyond-fibroids>

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 12:40 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Ok. Crossing my fingers that we'll be able to get it up while we're still in Fibroids & Infertility Awareness Week!

On Mon, Apr 24, 2017 at 12:37 PM Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com> wrote:

Great, thank you!

We expect it to go up by the end of the week. We'll definitely keep you in the loop. Thanks!

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 12:18 PM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Good Morning Allison,

This is perfect. Do you have any insight as to when it might be posted?

Thank you so much for your patience with my back and forth changes. I look forward to the FINAL FINAL.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Mon, Apr 24, 2017 at 11:48 AM, Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for flagging the dates. We made that change.

Also, we accepted "siphoning off," but we modified the statistic to match what's in the OWH fact sheet.

Lastly, I realized this morning that your bio was still a little too long. We have a max of 43 characters.

Thanks for all your patience and flexibility. The attached post is now in the final round of OWH review. We'll be sure to keep you in the loop.

Thanks, and I hope you had a nice weekend!

Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 23, 2017 11:37 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Allison,

I hope this finds you well. One quick note: Please correct the dates for National Fibroids Awareness and National Infertility Awareness week. It's actually, April 23 to 29th.

Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:53 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Hi Allison,

Thank you so much for your edits! A few last notes:

- I understand the issue regarding the statistics but because fibroids are such a marginalized issue the awareness is extremely low. Therefore, I feel it is very important to share a statistic. Consequently, I pulled from the WomensHealth.gov fact sheet to provide that context.

- • I am ok with all the changes around the "numbers" of my story but ask that if possible we keep the words "siphoning off" the blood supply rather than "cutting back" as I don't feel it's descriptive enough to truly tell what my daughter was experiencing in the womb.
- • Outside of that, I have accepted the lion's share of the changes.

Thank you also for adding in the language I requested around the #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory campaign! I look forward to hearing back from you and finalizing the piece.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:17 PM, Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Attached please find the edited version of your post. I worked with Valerie to ensure that this meets OWH's style guidelines, including making edits to ensure that it's consumer-friendly.

For the statistic, we would have to include the one on womenshealth.gov. Because it's such a broad range of women impacted by fibroids, we didn't think it strengthened the post, so we recommend not including it.

Lastly, we worked in the language you provided below.

Please let me know if you have any questions about these edits. Once we get the greenlight, this can go through the final round of review at OWH.

Thanks, and have a nice weekend!

Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 3:42 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie and Alli

I hope this finds you well. I know you're still working to finalize my blog piece. I had a quick question. Next week is "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week. Can we add a line at the end of the article like this?

In observance of “National Fibroids Awareness” and “National Infertility Awareness” week (April 22 to 29th), we invite you to stop suffering in silence by SHARING YOUR STORY using the hashtags #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory and #NIAW #NFAW. Collectively, we will proclaim that Fibroids and Infertility matter!

I've attached a revised version of the article with this verbiage. Thank you so much!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
& Fertility Coach

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[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination
TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:39 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Excellent! Thank you.

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:37 PM Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks so much for following up. My apologies on the delayed response. Like Valerie mentioned in her email, I'll review this version to make sure that it coincides with OWH style. We'll be back in touch with you soon with any additional edits or changes.

Thanks!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 3:11 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Alli,

I hope this finds you well. I just want to ensure you have a version of the blog that corresponds with my response to Valerie's last email so I have attached it here. NOTE: I have also added my website to my About the Author.

For your easy reference, I have pated below my responses sent yesterday:

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as there language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan."It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. 2010; 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million; 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

Please advise of any further updates. Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author &Fibroids &Fertility Coach

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[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

*[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination
TeleSeminar MP3](#)*

On Wed, Apr 19, 2017 at 11:02 AM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Thank you for forwarding your changes to the article and I'm glad that it was more in line with your expectations and guidelines for the piece. We're almost there!

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as the language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and

progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause

- Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan." It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. • My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. • The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. • 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million; 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

I hope that helps and I hope you're doing something fun! Thank you again for your help in getting it up to code! :)

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 3:22 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for the quick turnaround! This version definitely follows the direction we discussed. We made a few additional edits in the attached version. Primarily we provided more cautious language about the link between fibroids and estrogen and we removed the examples of the toxin-free products. The removal of this language helps to get the word count down closer to our preferred number of 700.

The one thing I still need from you is the citation for the stats you provide in the 3rd paragraph.

I've copied my colleague Alli on this email so please Reply to All with your citation. She will make sure this post adheres to our

style guide (grammar, etc). I want to keep this moving while I'm on travel and without email access for the next two days. (Alli: I'll be back on Friday and will aim to get final OWH sign off then).

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com]
On Behalf Of Gessie Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 12:50 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

My apologies. This time I'll attach the article. :)

On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 12:48 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Happy Tuesday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm back in the USA but when I close my eyes I'm back on Charles Bridge! Even on my fourth visit, Prague is a GORGEOUS city. This time we did an excursion to Karlstejn Castle, which included a horse carriage ride up the hill to the actual castle. If you go back, you definitely want to do that.

Attached is the revised article and I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- Head

Shot: <https://app.box.com/s/z41oqn4z1viq4y44zsddb3ioefuvcef>

- Family

Photo: <https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s21gs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you again for your guidance. I think I got it right this time. I look forward to your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids
Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author
& Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Fri, Apr 14, 2017 at 12:37 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I like your new approach idea as it removes any concerns we would have with providing medical recommendations.

Thanks for your specific questions. Here are my answers to each:

1. While research may suggest a link between estrogen and fibroids, it is scientifically unclear if estrogen is a causal factor. So we would prefer that you not state it as fact. You can indicate that as a result of this research you took steps to reduce your levels and discuss those.

2. Yes, you can keep in the opening quote if you remove the reference.

3 and 4. We are not only prohibited from promoting products, services and providers, but we also cannot give the appearance of an endorsement. That is why we cannot include your MP3 file even if it is free. Yes, we can definitely link to your website in your author byline and bio!

I hope this answers your questions. In terms of a date for returning a revised version, is Tues, April 18 by 4 EST possible? I leave for work travel the next day and would like to get this put in to clearance on Tuesday before I go if possible.

Best and safe travels home,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com]

On Behalf Of Gessie Thompson

Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 7:21 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Yes. Prague is a beautiful city...one of my favorites!

Thank you for forwarding the revised article. Given the changes, I'd like to take a different approach to the article as you've advised--adding in what helped me personally. I will use the approach taken in the current "Becoming a PCOS Diva" article--meaning, speaking about it from a personal perspective verses a medical recommendation. A few questions:

1. • If we remove the reference to the doctors, can I still include the content around the fact that research consistently links the growth of fibroids to estrogen and from there speak to how I reduced my estrogen levels by removing the toxins out of my lifestyles through stress management, diet and exercises?
2. • I see that you removed the first two sentences of my opening quote. Can we keep it in if I simply remove the reference to the book and just use it as an opening quote?
3. • I see that you've deleted the free MP3 that I linked to the article. This is a free teleseminar that helps women learn more about the lifestyle changes they can make to help manage their fibroids. Is there a way to include this info in the article using different wording?
4. • I see that the Becoming a PCOS Diva article had two links to her website. The first was in her byline and the other in her author bio. Will this be something I can also do?

Thank you and by when do you need the revised document?

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids
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& Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids
Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Thu, Apr 13, 2017 at 5:57 PM, Borden, Valerie
(HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I love Prague based on the week I spent there years ago! Hope you
are getting good weather as it's a very walkable city.

I apologize for not getting back to you sooner with our edits. The
attached has lots of edits but please don't be concerned. The two
main things I had to remove were references to your book and the
medical doctor who helped you as we are not allowed to promote
products or medical professionals by name. In addition I removed
the section on the 3 things every woman should know because we

will link to our fact sheet on Fibroids:

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/uterine-fibroids>

We are excited to hear more of your personal story. You can add how diet and exercise helped you, etc., but we cannot include specific dietary recommendations.

Please feel free to email me back with any questions or concerns.

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com]

On Behalf Of Gessie Thompson

Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 8:06 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm writing to check back in with you on the status of the article. Your last email indicated that you were working on the edits and would be forwarding the final for my review.

The London Women's Health event well and I'm now in Prague on vacation for the week but will be checking email to ensure that I respond to you in a timely manner.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids
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Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author
& Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids
Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 9:44 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Excellent. Thank you and I look forward to seeing them!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 4:34 PM Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Thanks Gessie,

I received your blog and we are putting it through review now. I'll share with you our edits once complete.

Enjoy your time in London!

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com]
On Behalf Of Gessie Thompson
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 5:31 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

--
See-Soar-Succeed ☐,
Gessie Thompson
President/CEO
The UpLift! Group
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(b)(6)

F: [646-478-9179](tel:646-478-9179)
gessie@upliftgroup.com
www.upliftgroup.com

Sender:	Gessie Thompson < info@gessiethompson.com >
Recipient:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

	(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>; Allison Hall-Jordan (AHallJordan@hagersharp.com) <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Sent Date:	2017/04/28 09:56:34
Delivered Date:	2017/04/28 09:57:38

From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
To:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject:	RE: One minor change to Fibroids post
Date:	2017/04/28 08:44:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

I will notify her. Thanks!

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 8:42 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: One minor change to Fibroids post

Hi Val,

Gessie's post is live. Would you like to notify her or would you like me to?

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog/hope-beyond-fibroids>

Thanks!
Alli

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 4:22 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: One minor change to Fibroids post

Hi Alli,

The blog looks great. I approve it for posting.

Thanks. Val

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 4:08 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: One minor change to Fibroids post

Hi Val,

The blog post is ready for your review: <http://womenshealthgovstg.prod.acquia-sites.com/blog/hope-beyond-fibroids>

How does this look?

Thanks,
Alli

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 9:51 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: One minor change to Fibroids post

Thanks for the update on Nicole's post.

I approve the e-blast for Gessie's post.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 9:42 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: One minor change to Fibroids post

And Nicole's post is live. The e-blast will go out today at 10 a.m.

Does this work for Gessie's e-blast?

Subject line:
Lists: OWH blog

"In 2001, I was diagnosed with uterine fibroids... From that moment, infertility, a result of those fibroids, became a heartbreaking reality I fought to overcome." –Gessie Thompson

Read one woman's story about fibroids and infertility.

[Read the blog post]

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 9:33 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: One minor change to Fibroids post

Great news. Thanks!

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 9:29 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: One minor change to Fibroids post

Got it. I'll let the web team know. They're working on the post and said that publishing tomorrow should work. Thanks!

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 9:28 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: One minor change to Fibroids post
Importance: High

Alli,

All that is needed is to capitalize the "E" in embrace like below.

Thanks. Val

1. **Exchanging my stress for rest:** Stress is how our brains and bodies react to the pressure we experience as part of our fast-paced and demanding lives. In response to this reality, I engage my "Double E Strategy." Establish healthy boundaries and **Embrace** my limits. This includes:

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 11:49 AM
To: Gessie Thompson
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for flagging the dates. We made that change.

Also, we accepted "siphoning off," but we modified the statistic to match what's in the OWH fact sheet.

Lastly, I realized this morning that your bio was still a little too long. We have a max of 43 characters.

Thanks for all your patience and flexibility. The attached post is now in the final round of OWH review. We'll be sure to keep you in the loop.

Thanks, and I hope you had a nice weekend!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [<mailto:info@gessiethompson.com>]
Sent: Sunday, April 23, 2017 11:37 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Allison,

I hope this finds you well. One quick note: Please correct the dates for National Fibroids Awareness and National Infertility Awareness week. It's actually, April 23 to 29th.

Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
P: 718-591-2447
F: 646-478-9179
info@gessiethompson.com
www.gessiethompson.com

[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:53 PM, Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:
Hi Allison,

Thank you so much for your edits! A few last notes:

- I understand the issue regarding the statistics but because fibroids are such a marginalized issue the awareness is extremely low. Therefore, I feel it is very important to share a statistic. Consequently, I pulled from the WomensHealth.gov fact sheet to provide that context.
- I am ok with all the changes around the "numbers" of my story but ask that if possible we keep the words "siphoning off" the blood supply rather than "cutting back" as I don't feel it's descriptive enough to truly tell what my daughter was experiencing in the womb.
- Outside of that, I have accepted the lion's share of the changes.

Thank you also for adding in the language I requested around the #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory campaign! I look forward to hearing back from you and finalizing the piece.

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:17 PM, Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Attached please find the edited version of your post. I worked with Valerie to ensure that this meets OWH's style guidelines, including making edits to ensure that it's consumer-friendly.

For the statistic, we would have to include the one on womenshealth.gov. Because it's such a broad range of women impacted by fibroids, we didn't think it strengthened the post, so we recommend not including it.

Lastly, we worked in the language you provided below.

Please let me know if you have any questions about these edits. Once we get the greenlight, this can go through the final round of review at OWH.

Thanks, and have a nice weekend!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 3:42 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie and Alli

I hope this finds you well. I know you're still working to finalize my blog piece. I had a quick question. Next week is "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week. Can we add a line at the end of the article like this?

In observance of "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week (April 22 to 29th), we invite you to stop suffering in silence by SHARING YOUR STORY using the hashtags #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory and #NIAW #NFAW. Collectively, we will proclaim that Fibroids and Infertility matter!

I've attached a revised version of the article with this verbiage. Thank you so much!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:39 PM, Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Excellent! Thank you.

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:37 PM Allison Hall-Jordan

<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks so much for following up. My apologies on the delayed response. Like Valerie mentioned in her email, I'll review this version to make sure that it coincides with OWH style. We'll be back in touch with you soon with any additional edits or changes.

Thanks!

Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 3:11 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Alli,

I hope this finds you well. I just want to ensure you have a version of the blog that corresponds with my response to Valerie's last email so I have attached it here.

NOTE: I have also added my website to my About the Author.

For your easy reference, I have pated below my responses sent yesterday:

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as there language of the studies-- including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan." It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million; 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

Please advise of any further updates. Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
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[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Wed, Apr 19, 2017 at 11:02 AM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Thank you for forwarding your changes to the article and I'm glad that it was more in line with your expectations and guidelines for the piece. We're almost there!

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as there language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- • Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- • Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan."It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. • My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. • The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. • 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million; 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

I hope that helps and I hope you're doing something fun! Thank you again for your help in getting it up to code! :)

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 3:22 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for the quick turnaround! This version definitely follows the direction we discussed. We made a few additional edits in the attached version. Primarily we provided more cautious language about the link between fibroids and estrogen and we removed the examples of the toxin-free products. The removal of this language helps to get the word count down closer to our preferred number of 700.

The one thing I still need from you is the citation for the stats you provide in the 3rd paragraph.

I've copied my colleague Alli on this email so please Reply to All with your citation. She will make sure this post adheres to our style guide (grammar, etc). I want to keep this moving while I'm on travel and without email access for the next two days. (Alli: I'll be back on Friday and will aim to get final OWH sign off then).

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson

Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 12:50 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

My apologies. This time I'll attach the article. :)

On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 12:48 PM, Gessie Thompson

<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Happy Tuesday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm back in the USA but when I close my eyes I'm back on Charles Bridge! Even on my fourth visit, Prague is a GORGEOUS city. This time we did an excursion to Karlstejn Castle, which included a horse carriage ride up the hill to the actual castle. If you go back, you definitely want to do that.

Attached is the revised article and I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- Head Shot: <https://app.box.com/s/z41oqn4z1viq4y44zsddb3ioefuvcef>
- Family Photo: <https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s2lgs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you again for your guidance. I think I got it right this time. I look forward to your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility

Coach

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Fri, Apr 14, 2017 at 12:37 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I like your new approach idea as it removes any concerns we would have with providing medical recommendations.

Thanks for your specific questions. Here are my answers to each:

1. While research may suggest a link between estrogen and fibroids, it is scientifically unclear if estrogen is a causal factor. So we would prefer that you not state it as fact. You can indicate that as a result of this research you took steps to reduce your levels and discuss those.

2. Yes, you can keep in the opening quote if you remove the reference.
3 and 4. We are not only prohibited from promoting products, services and providers, but we also cannot give the appearance of an endorsement. That is why we cannot include your MP3 file even it is free. Yes, we can definitely link to your website in your author byline and bio!

I hope this answers your questions. In terms of a date for returning a revised version, is Tues, April 18 by 4 EST possible? I leave for work travel the next day and would like to get this put in to clearance on Tuesday before I go if possible.

Best and safe travels home,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of**
Gessie Thompson
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 7:21 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Yes. Prague is a beautiful city...one of my favorites!

Thank you for forwarding the revised article. Given the changes, I'd like to take a different approach to the article as you've advised--adding in what helped me personally. I will use the approach taken in the current "Becoming a PCOS Diva" article--meaning, speaking about it from a personal perspective verses a medical recommendation. A few questions:

1. • If we remove the reference to the doctors, can I still include the content around the fact that research consistently links the growth of fibroids to estrogen and from there speak to how I reduced my estrogen levels by removing the toxins out of my lifestyles through stress management, diet and exercises?
2. • I see that you removed the first two sentences of my opening quote. Can we keep it in if I simply remove the reference to the book and just use it as an opening quote?
3. • I see that you've deleted the free MP3 that I linked to the article. This is a free teleseminar that helps women learn more about the lifestyle changes they can make to help manage their fibroids. Is there a way to include this info in the article using different wording?

4. • I see that the Becoming a PCOS Diva article had two links to her website. The first was in her byline and the other in her author bio. Will this be something I can also do?

Thank you and by when do you need the revised document?

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

P: [718-591-2447](tel:718-591-2447)

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Thu, Apr 13, 2017 at 5:57 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I love Prague based on the week I spent there years ago! Hope you are getting good weather as it's a very walkable city.

I apologize for not getting back to you sooner with our edits. The attached has lots of edits but please don't be concerned. The two main things I had to remove were references to your book and the medical doctor who helped you as we are not allowed to promote products or medical professionals by name. In addition I removed the section on the 3 things every woman should know because we will link to our fact sheet on Fibroids: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/uterine-fibroids>

We are excited to hear more of your personal story. You can add how diet and exercise helped you, etc., but we cannot include specific dietary recommendations.

Please feel free to email me back with any questions or concerns.

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of**
Gessie Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 8:06 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm writing to check back in with you on the status of the article. Your last email indicated that you were working on the edits and would be forwarding the final for my review.

The London Women's Health event well and I'm now in Prague on vacation for the week but will be checking email to ensure that I respond to you in a timely manner.

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 9:44 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:
Hi Valerie,

Excellent. Thank you and I look forward to seeing them!

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 4:34 PM Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Thanks Gessie,

I received your blog and we are putting it through review now. I'll share with you our edits once complete.

Enjoy your time in London!

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of**
Gessie Thompson
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 5:31 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Attached is the promised draft of my piece in support of "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" weeks (observed April 22 to 29th).

I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- Head Shot:
<https://app.box.com/s/z41oqn4z1viq4y44zsddbi3ioefuvcef>
- Family Photo:
<https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s21gs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you and I look forward to hearing your thoughts/receiving your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility
Coach

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Thu, Mar 16, 2017 at 2:43 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I'm so pleased that you are willing to write a piece for our blog and can meet our April timetable. I look forward to receiving your draft the first week in April.

Thanks again!

Valerie Borden

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:14 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Dear Valerie,

It's a pleasure to e-meet you and thank you for your email. It would be my honor to share my story through your blog in support of "National Infertility Awareness Week" and "National Fibroids Awareness Week"-- which both occur April 23 to 29th.

I will review the guidelines you've provided and submit the piece by the first week of April. I travel on April 6th to speak at a women's health conference in the London area on April 8th so it will ideally be before then.

I look forward to working with you.

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
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[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

*Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination
TeleSeminar MP3*

On Wed, Mar 15, 2017 at 9:24 AM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Dear Gessie,

I work in the HHS Office on Women's Health and manage our blog. Jenn Bishop Crawford and Jill Wasserman shared with me your interest in providing a blog for our site for April for National Infertility Month, April 23-29. Are you able to provide me with a 500-700 word draft by early April? I need about 2 weeks for editorial review and clearance on this end. Attached are our blog guidelines that provide specific guidance. Also, feel free to view our past blog posts at: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog>

Please contact me with any questions. We are very excited to share your story with our blog followers!

Best,

Valerie Borden
Senior Advisor, Public and Private Partnerships
Division of Strategic Communications

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov
Main: [202-690-7650](tel:202-690-7650) | Direct: [202-205-0270](tel:202-205-0270)
Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: [1-800-994-9662](tel:1-800-994-9662) | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

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See-Soar-Succeed!!!,
Gessie Thompson
President/CEO
The UpLift! Group

P: [718-591-2447](tel:718-591-2447)

(b)(6)

F: [646-478-9179](tel:646-478-9179)

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Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

CEO, HOPE BEYOND FIBROIDS

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!

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Sender:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
Recipient:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Sent Date:	2017/04/28 08:44:16
Delivered Date:	2017/04/28 08:44:00

From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Subject:	RE: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health
Date:	2017/05/01 09:52:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note



From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Monday, May 01, 2017 9:52 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

That's a great idea!!!

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Monday, May 01, 2017 9:52 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Or we can discuss at one of today's DSC meetings? We can get feedback from others that way.

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Monday, May 01, 2017 9:51 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

She didn't respond. ☹️ I will send her another e-mail.

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Monday, May 01, 2017 9:44 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Did you get an answer from Jenn? I want to respond to our guest blogger. Thanks!

From: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 11:26 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

OWH hasn't done this in the past but let me talk with Jenn.
I think that we should rethink this, especially if they are low-risk and we can provide a disclaimer that their views don't represent the views of OWH.
But that's my opinion. 😊

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 11:03 AM
To: Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: FW: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Can we tag out guest bloggers as requested below? I should know this!

From: Gessie Thompson [<mailto:info@gessiethompson.com>]
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 10:55 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan (AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com)
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

I'm sharing it with my network now. Could you please make sure to have your social media team tag me when your office posts it? I'm @gessieTUG on Instagram and Twitter. And, Gessie Thompson on Facebook.

Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
P: 718-591-2447
F: 646-478-9179
info@gessiethompson.com
www.gessiethompson.com

[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Fri, Apr 28, 2017 at 9:56 AM, Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:
Excellent! Thank you!

Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
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On Fri, Apr 28, 2017 at 8:59 AM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Your blog post is live! Thanks so much for working with us to present this important topic to our followers. Feel free to promote the blog over your channels!

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog/hope-beyond-fibroids>

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 12:40 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Ok. Crossing my fingers that we'll be able to get it up while we're still in Fibroids & Infertility Awareness Week!

On Mon, Apr 24, 2017 at 12:37 PM Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagersharp.com> wrote:

Great, thank you!

We expect it to go up by the end of the week. We'll definitely keep you in the loop. Thanks!

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]

Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 12:18 PM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Good Morning Allison,

This is perfect. Do you have any insight as to when it might be posted?

Thank you so much for your patience with my back and forth changes. I look forward to the FINAL FINAL.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Mon, Apr 24, 2017 at 11:48 AM, Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for flagging the dates. We made that change.

Also, we accepted "siphoning off," but we modified the statistic to match what's in the OWH fact sheet.

Lastly, I realized this morning that your bio was still a little too long. We have a max of 43 characters.

Thanks for all your patience and flexibility. The attached post is now in the final round of OWH review. We'll be sure to keep you in the loop.

Thanks, and I hope you had a nice weekend!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 23, 2017 11:37 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Allison,

I hope this finds you well. One quick note: Please correct the dates for National Fibroids Awareness and National Infertility Awareness week. It's actually, April 23 to 29th.

Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson
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[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:53 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Hi Allison,

Thank you so much for your edits! A few last notes:

- I understand the issue regarding the statistics but because fibroids are such a marginalized issue the awareness is extremely low. Therefore, I feel it is

very important to share a statistic. Consequently, I pulled from the WomensHealth.gov fact sheet to provide that context.

- I am ok with all the changes around the "numbers" of my story but ask that if possible we keep the words "siphoning off" the blood supply rather than "cutting back" as I don't feel it's descriptive enough to truly tell what my daughter was experiencing in the womb.
- Outside of that, I have accepted the lion's share of the changes.

Thank you also for adding in the language I requested around the #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory campaign! I look forward to hearing back from you and finalizing the piece.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Fri, Apr 21, 2017 at 5:17 PM, Allison Hall-Jordan

<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Attached please find the edited version of your post. I worked with Valerie to ensure that this meets OWH's style guidelines, including making edits to ensure that it's consumer-friendly.

For the statistic, we would have to include the one on womenshealth.gov. Because it's such a broad range of women impacted by fibroids, we didn't think it strengthened the post, so we recommend not including it.

Lastly, we worked in the language you provided below.

Please let me know if you have any questions about these edits. Once we get the greenlight, this can go through the final round of review at OWH.

Thanks, and have a nice weekend!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]

Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 3:42 PM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie and Alli

I hope this finds you well. I know you're still working to finalize my blog piece. I had a quick question. Next week is "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week. Can we add a line at the end of the article like this?

In observance of "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week (April 22 to 29th), we invite you to stop suffering in silence by SHARING YOUR STORY using the hashtags #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory and #NIAW #NFAW. Collectively, we will proclaim that Fibroids and Infertility matter!

I've attached a revised version of the article with this verbiage. Thank you so much!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:39 PM, Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Excellent! Thank you.

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:37 PM Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks so much for following up. My apologies on the delayed response. Like Valerie mentioned in her email, I'll review this version to make sure that it coincides with OWH style. We'll be back in touch with you soon with any additional edits or changes.

Thanks!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 3:11 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Alli,

I hope this finds you well. I just want to ensure you have a version of the blog that corresponds with my response to Valerie's last email so I have attached it here. NOTE: I have also added my website to my About the Author.

For your easy reference, I have pated below my responses sent yesterday:

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as there language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan."It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:

1. 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million;
156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

Please advise of any further updates. Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility
Coach

P: [718-591-2447](tel:718-591-2447)

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TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Wed, Apr 19, 2017 at 11:02 AM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Thank you for forwarding your changes to the article and I'm glad that it was more in line with your expectations and guidelines for the piece. We're almost there!

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as there language of the studies- including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels)
Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
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Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan." It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

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1. • My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. • The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. • 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million; 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

I hope that helps and I hope you're doing something fun! Thank you again for your help in getting it up to code! :)

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
& Fertility Coach
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On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 3:22 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for the quick turnaround! This version definitely follows the direction we discussed. We made a few additional edits in the attached version. Primarily we provided more cautious language about the link between fibroids and estrogen and we removed the examples of the toxin-free products. The removal of this language helps to get the word count down closer to our preferred number of 700.

The one thing I still need from you is the citation for the stats you provide in the 3rd paragraph.

I've copied my colleague Alli on this email so please Reply to All with your citation. She will make sure this post adheres to our style guide (grammar, etc). I want to keep this moving while I'm on travel and without email access for the next two days. (Alli: I'll be back on Friday and will aim to get final OWH sign off then).

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 12:50 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

My apologies. This time I'll attach the article. :)

On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 12:48 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:
Happy Tuesday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm back in the USA but when I close my eyes I'm back on Charles Bridge! Even on my fourth visit, Prague is a GORGEOUS city. This time we did an excursion to Karlstejn Castle, which included a horse carriage ride up the hill to the actual castle. If you go back, you definitely want to do that.

Attached is the revised article and I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- Head Shot: <https://app.box.com/s/z41oqn4z1viq4y44zsddb3ioefuvcef>
- Family Photo: <https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s21gs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you again for your guidance. I think I got it right this time. I look forward to your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids

& Fertility Coach

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TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Fri, Apr 14, 2017 at 12:37 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I like your new approach idea as it removes any concerns we would have with providing medical recommendations.

Thanks for your specific questions. Here are my answers to each:

1. While research may suggest a link between estrogen and fibroids, it is scientifically unclear if estrogen is a causal factor. So we would prefer that you not state it as fact. You can indicate that as a result of this research you took steps to reduce your levels and discuss those.
2. Yes, you can keep in the opening quote if you remove the reference.
- 3 and 4. We are not only prohibited from promoting products, services and providers, but we also cannot give the appearance of an endorsement. That is why we cannot include your MP3 file even it is free. Yes, we can definitely link to your website in your author byline and bio!

I hope this answers your questions. In terms of a date for returning a revised version, is Tues, April 18 by 4 EST possible? I leave for work travel the next day and would like to get this put in to clearance on Tuesday before I go if possible.

Best and safe travels home,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On**
Behalf Of Gessie Thompson
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 7:21 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Yes. Prague is a beautiful city...one of my favorites!

Thank you for forwarding the revised article. Given the changes, I'd like to take a different approach to the article as you've advised--adding in what helped me personally. I will use the approach taken in the current "Becoming a PCOS Diva" article--meaning, speaking about it from a personal perspective verses a medical recommendation. A few questions:

1. • If we remove the reference to the doctors, can I still include the content around the fact that research consistently links the growth of fibroids to estrogen and from there speak to how I reduced my estrogen levels by removing the toxins out of my lifestyles through stress management, diet and exercises?
2. • I see that you removed the first two sentences of my opening quote. Can we keep it in if I simply remove the reference to the book and just use it as an opening quote?
3. • I see that you've deleted the free MP3 that I linked to the article. This is a free teleseminar that helps women learn more about the lifestyle changes they can make to help manage their fibroids. Is there a way to include this info in the article using different wording?
4. • I see that the Becoming a PCOS Diva article had two links to her website. The first was in her byline and the other in her author bio. Will this be something I can also do?

Thank you and by when do you need the revised document?

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
& Fertility Coach
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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Thu, Apr 13, 2017 at 5:57 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I love Prague based on the week I spent there years ago! Hope you are getting good weather as it's a very walkable city.

I apologize for not getting back to you sooner with our edits. The attached has lots of edits but please don't be concerned. The two main things I had to remove were references to your book and the medical doctor who helped you as we are not allowed to promote products or medical professionals by name. In addition I removed the section on the 3 things every woman should know because we will link to our fact sheet on Fibroids: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/uterine-fibroids>

We are excited to hear more of your personal story. You can add how diet and exercise helped you, etc., but we cannot include specific dietary recommendations.

Please feel free to email me back with any questions or concerns.

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 8:06 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm writing to check back in with you on the status of the article. Your last email indicated that you were working on the edits and would be forwarding the final for my review.

The London Women's Health event well and I'm now in Prague on vacation for the week but will be checking email to ensure that I respond to you in a timely manner.

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
& Fertility Coach
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TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 9:44 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:
Hi Valerie,

Excellent. Thank you and I look forward to seeing them!

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 4:34 PM Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Thanks Gessie,

I received your blog and we are putting it through review now. I'll share with you our edits once complete.

Enjoy your time in London!

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On**
Behalf Of Gessie Thompson
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 5:31 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

--

See-Soar-Succeed ☐,

Gessie Thompson

President/CEO

The UpLift! Group

P: [718-591-2447](tel:718-591-2447)

(b)(6)

F: [646-478-9179](tel:646-478-9179)

gessie@upliftgroup.com

www.upliftgroup.com

Sender:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
Recipient:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>
Sent Date:	2017/05/01 09:52:55
Delivered Date:	2017/05/01 09:52:00

From:	Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com>
To:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
CC:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health
Date:	2017/04/23 23:45:48
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Allison,

I hope this finds you well. One quick note: Please correct the dates for National Fibroids Awareness and National Infertility Awareness week. It's actually, April 23 to 29th.

Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

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- I am ok with all the changes around the "numbers" of my story but ask that if possible we keep the words "siphoning off" the blood supply rather than

"cutting back" as I don't feel it's descriptive enough to truly tell what my daughter was experiencing in the womb.

- • Outside of that, I have accepted the lion's share of the changes.

Thank you also for adding in the language I requested around the #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory campaign! I look forward to hearing back from you and finalizing the piece.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

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<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com> wrote:

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Lastly, we worked in the language you provided below.

Please let me know if you have any questions about these edits. Once we get the greenlight, this can go through the final round of review at OWH.

Thanks, and have a nice weekend!

Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]

Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 3:42 PM

To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie and Alli

I hope this finds you well. I know you're still working to finalize my blog piece. I had a quick question. Next week is "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week. Can we add a line at the end of the article like this?

In observance of "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" week (April 22 to 29th), we invite you to stop suffering in silence by SHARING YOUR STORY using the hashtags #MyFibroidsStory / #MyInfertilityStory and #NIAW #NFAW. Collectively, we will proclaim that Fibroids and Infertility matter!

I've attached a revised version of the article with this verbiage. Thank you so much!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

P: [718-591-2447](tel:718-591-2447)

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www.gessiethompson.com

[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:39 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Excellent! Thank you.

On Thu, Apr 20, 2017 at 3:37 PM Allison Hall-Jordan
<AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks so much for following up. My apologies on the delayed response. Like Valerie mentioned in her email, I'll review this version to make sure that it coincides with OWH style. We'll be back in touch with you soon with any additional edits or changes.

Thanks!
Allison

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 3:11 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Alli,

I hope this finds you well. I just want to ensure you have a version of the blog that corresponds with my response to Valerie's last email so I have attached it here. NOTE: I have also added my website to my About the Author.

For your easy reference, I have pated below my responses sent yesterday:

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as there language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan."It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million;
156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

Please advise of any further updates. Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

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On Wed, Apr 19, 2017 at 11:02 AM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Thank you for forwarding your changes to the article and I'm glad that it was more in line with your expectations and guidelines for the piece. We're almost there!

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as there language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- • Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels)
Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- • Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan." It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. • My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. • The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. • 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million; 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

I hope that helps and I hope you're doing something fun! Thank you again for your help in getting it up to code! :)

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 3:22 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for the quick turnaround! This version definitely follows the direction we discussed. We made a few additional edits in the attached version. Primarily we provided more cautious language about the link between fibroids and estrogen and we removed the examples of the toxin-free products. The removal of this language helps to get the word count down closer to our preferred number of 700.

The one thing I still need from you is the citation for the stats you provide in the 3rd paragraph.

I've copied my colleague Alli on this email so please Reply to All with your citation. She will make sure this post adheres to our style guide (grammar, etc). I want to keep this moving while I'm on travel and without email access for the next two days. (Alli: I'll be back on Friday and will aim to get final OWH sign off then).

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 12:50 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

My apologies. This time I'll attach the article. :)

On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 12:48 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Happy Tuesday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm back in the USA but when I close my eyes I'm back on Charles Bridge! Even on my fourth visit, Prague is a GORGEOUS city. This time we did an excursion to Karlstejn Castle,

which included a horse carriage ride up the hill to the actual castle. If you go back, you definitely want to do that.

Attached is the revised article and I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- Head Shot: <https://app.box.com/s/z41oqn4z1viq4y44zsddb3ioefuvcef>
- Family Photo: <https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s21gs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you again for your guidance. I think I got it right this time. I look forward to your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
& Fertility Coach

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TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Fri, Apr 14, 2017 at 12:37 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I like your new approach idea as it removes any concerns we would have with providing medical recommendations.

Thanks for your specific questions. Here are my answers to each:

1. While research may suggest a link between estrogen and fibroids, it is scientifically unclear if estrogen is a causal factor. So we would prefer that you not state it as fact. You can indicate that as a result of this research you took steps to reduce your levels and discuss those.

2. Yes, you can keep in the opening quote if you remove the reference.

3 and 4. We are not only prohibited from promoting products, services and providers, but we also cannot give the appearance of an endorsement. That is why we cannot include your MP3 file even it is free. Yes, we can definitely link to your website in your author byline and bio!

I hope this answers your questions. In terms of a date for returning a revised version, is Tues, April 18 by 4 EST possible? I leave for work travel the next day and would like to get this put in to clearance on Tuesday before I go if possible.

Best and safe travels home,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 7:21 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Yes. Prague is a beautiful city...one of my favorites!

Thank you for forwarding the revised article. Given the changes, I'd like to take a different approach to the article as you've advised--adding in what helped me personally. I will use the approach taken in the current "Becoming a PCOS Diva" article--meaning, speaking about it from a personal perspective verses a medical recommendation. A few questions:

1. • If we remove the reference to the doctors, can I still include the content around the fact that research consistently links the growth of fibroids to estrogen and from there speak to how I reduced my estrogen levels by removing the toxins out of my lifestyles through stress management, diet and exercises?
2. • I see that you removed the first two sentences of my opening quote. Can we keep it in if I simply remove the reference to the book and just use it as an opening quote?
3. • I see that you've deleted the free MP3 that I linked to the article. This is a free teleseminar that helps women learn more about the lifestyle changes they can make to help manage their fibroids. Is there a way to include this info in the article using different wording?
4. • I see that the Becoming a PCOS Diva article had two links to her website. The first was in her byline and the other in her author bio. Will this be something I can also do?

Thank you and by when do you need the revised document?

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
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On Thu, Apr 13, 2017 at 5:57 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I love Prague based on the week I spent there years ago! Hope you are getting good weather as it's a very walkable city.

I apologize for not getting back to you sooner with our edits. The attached has lots of edits but please don't be concerned. The two main things I had to remove were references to your book and the medical doctor who helped you as we are not allowed to promote products or medical professionals by name. In addition I removed the section on the 3 things every woman should know because we will link to our fact sheet on Fibroids:

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/uterine-fibroids>

We are excited to hear more of your personal story. You can add how diet and exercise helped you, etc., but we cannot include specific dietary recommendations.

Please feel free to email me back with any questions or concerns.

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 8:06 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm writing to check back in with you on the status of the article. Your last email indicated that you were working on the edits and would be forwarding the final for my review.

The London Women's Health event well and I'm now in Prague on vacation for the week but will be checking email to ensure that I respond to you in a timely manner.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
& Fertility Coach

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 9:44 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Excellent. Thank you and I look forward to seeing them!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 4:34 PM Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Thanks Gessie,

I received your blog and we are putting it through review now. I'll share with you our edits once complete.

Enjoy your time in London!

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On**
Behalf Of Gessie Thompson
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 5:31 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Attached is the promised draft of my piece in support of "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" weeks (observed April 22 to 29th).

I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- Head Shot:
<https://app.box.com/s/z4loqn4z1viq4y44zsddb3ioefuvcef>
- Family Photo:
<https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s2lgs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you and I look forward to hearing your thoughts/receiving your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids
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*[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination
TeleSeminar MP3](#)*

On Thu, Mar 16, 2017 at 2:43 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I'm so pleased that you are willing to write a piece for our blog and can meet our April timetable. I look forward to receiving your draft the first week in April.

Thanks again!

Valerie Borden

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:14 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Dear Valerie,

It's a pleasure to e-meet you and thank you for your email. It would be my honor to share my story through your blog in support of "National Infertility Awareness Week" and "National Fibroids Awareness Week"--which both occur April 23 to 29th.

I will review the guidelines you've provided and submit the piece by the first week of April. I travel on April 6th to speak at a women's health conference in the London area on April 8th so it will ideally be before then.

I look forward to working with you.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

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On Wed, Mar 15, 2017 at 9:24 AM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Dear Gessie,

I work in the HHS Office on Women's Health and manage our blog. Jenn Bishop Crawford and Jill Wasserman shared with me your interest in providing a blog for our site for April for National Infertility Month, April 23-29. Are you able to provide me with a 500-700 word draft by early April? I need about 2 weeks for editorial review and clearance on this end. Attached are our blog guidelines that provide specific guidance. Also, feel free to view our past blog posts at: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog>

Please contact me with any questions. We are very excited to share your story with our blog followers!

Best,

**Valerie
Borden**

Senior Advisor, Public and Private Partnerships

Division of Strategic Communications

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov

Main: [202-690-7650](tel:202-690-7650) | Direct: [202-205-0270](tel:202-205-0270)

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: [1-800-994-9662](tel:1-800-994-9662) | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

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See-Soar-Succeed (S3),
Gessie Thompson
President/CEO
The UpLift! Group
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(b)(6)

F: [646-478-9179](tel:646-478-9179)
gessie@upliftgroup.com
www.upliftgroup.com

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Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
CEO, HOPE BEYOND FIBROIDS ☐
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program ☐
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach
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gessie@hopebeyondfibroids.com
www.HopeBeyondFibroids.com

Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!

Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3

Sender:	Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com>
Recipient:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Sent Date:	2017/04/23 23:36:41
Delivered Date:	2017/04/23 23:45:48

From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
To:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject:	RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten
Date:	2017/03/21 08:49:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

I'm not really surprised. They will benefit from an increase in visitors to her website. Glad it all worked out ☺

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 5:02 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

They'd like to move forward.

Thanks for understanding, Allison. After much discussion, we have decided to let it publish as they have rewritten it.

Not what I was expecting, but please let me know if you need anything else from me before you put it through clearance. Thanks!

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 11:51 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

Alli,

Jenn and I are uncomfortable with the phrase on supplements since she sells them on her website and it is not clear from the article of the need (they are also naturally occurring so supplements are not necessary). So we approve the version attached with that part of the sentence taken out. DO you need to show it to Amy before I put into OWH clearance?

Val

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 9:49 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

No problem! Here's the updated post, and I added some comments with links to sources. Please let me know if this looks OK to you or if you need me to make any other changes. Thanks!

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 9:31 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

Please cut out the line about gluten and dairy since you cannot find hard proof to support the claim.

Thanks. Val

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 5:43 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

Hi Val,

They're fine with the changes, except for those to the last line. They feel that cutting gluten and dairy improves more symptoms than acne, but I had a hard time finding hard proof of that in the sources she shared. She said we could cut the line and that would be my recommendation. Let me know what you'd like to do and I'll send over an updated draft.

Thanks!
Alli

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 1:57 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

These resources seem to back up her claims. The one in question to me is the following because it focuses on heart-healthy eating. I don't see the link to PCOS though it's clear this diet is good for all so maybe it is ok.

I suggest eliminating as much processed food from your diet as possible and eating whole foods such as nuts, lean meats, and organic fruits and vegetables instead.

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/publications/our-publications/fact-sheet/heart-healthy-eating.html>

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 11:46 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

They're journal articles and not a web page on CDC, for example.

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 11:45 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

I cannot look at this till later this afternoon, but if govt sources back up her claims then I am OK.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 10:01 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

Morning!

I wanted to share this with you before sending it back to Amy for final review. I added some clarifying language to explain how these diet changes are helping her manage her PCOS, and I added in sources. Do you want to take a look and let me know what you think?

I've found that the natural and artificial sugars in processed foods can trigger nasty symptoms, such as weight gain, and being overweight can worsen PCOS symptoms.

- <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2892765/>
- <https://www.womenshealth.gov/publications/our-publications/fact-sheet/polycystic-ovary-syndrome.html#9>

I suggest eliminating as much processed food from your diet as possible and eating whole foods such as nuts, lean meats, and organic fruits and vegetables instead.

- <https://www.womenshealth.gov/publications/our-publications/fact-sheet/heart-healthy-eating.html>

My PCOS is well controlled with diet and exercise, but supplements have made it easier to manage my symptoms because they help correct the hormone imbalance.

- <https://academic.oup.com/jcem/article-abstract/101/11/4322/2765013/Effects-of-Resveratrol-on-Polycystic-Ovary?redirectedFrom=fulltext>
- <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/10/161018143436.htm>

Finally, I've found that cutting out dairy and gluten helps improve my acne.

- <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21034984>

Thanks!
Alli

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:56 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

Ok. Thanks for letting me know.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:51 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

Today has been a little nuts. I'm planning to get you something tonight or first thing tomorrow. Thanks for your patience.

Sender:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
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Recipient:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Sent Date:	2017/03/21 08:48:58
Delivered Date:	2017/03/21 08:49:00

From:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten
Date:	2017/03/20 13:04:10
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thanks, Val! Just to be safe, I'll share it with her, but I'll position it more as an FYI. She's generally pretty responsive, so hopefully I'll hear back from her today.

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 11:51 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

Alli,

Jenn and I are uncomfortable with the phrase on supplements since she sells them on her website and it is not clear from the article of the need (they are also naturally occurring so supplements are not necessary). So we approve the version attached with that part of the sentence taken out. DO you need to show it to Amy before I put into OWH clearance?

Val

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 9:49 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

No problem! Here's the updated post, and I added some comments with links to sources. Please let me know if this looks OK to you or if you need me to make any other changes. Thanks!

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov]
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 9:31 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

Please cut out the line about gluten and dairy since you cannot find hard proof to support the claim.

Thanks. Val

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 5:43 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

Hi Val,

They're fine with the changes, expect for those to the last line. They feel that cutting gluten and dairy improves more symptoms than acne, but I had a hard time finding hard proof of that in the sources she shared. She said we could cut the line and that would be my recommendation. Let me know what you'd like to do and I'll send over an updated draft.

Thanks!
Alli

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 1:57 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

These resources seem to back up her claims. The one in question to me is the following because it focuses on heart-healthy eating. I don't see the link to PCOS though it's clear this diet is good for all so maybe it is ok.

I suggest eliminating as much processed food from your diet as possible and eating whole foods such as nuts, lean meats, and organic fruits and vegetables instead.

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/publications/our-publications/fact-sheet/heart-healthy-eating.html>

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 11:46 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

They're journal articles and not a web page on CDC, for example.

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 11:45 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

I cannot look at this till later this afternoon, but if govt sources back up her claims then I am OK.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 10:01 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

Morning!

I wanted to share this with you before sending it back to Amy for final review. I added some clarifying language to explain how these diet changes are helping her manage her PCOS, and I added in sources. Do you want to take a look and let me know what you think?

I've found that the natural and artificial sugars in processed foods can trigger nasty symptoms, such as weight gain, and being overweight can worsen PCOS symptoms.

- <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2892765/>
- <https://www.womenshealth.gov/publications/our-publications/fact-sheet/polycystic-ovary-syndrome.html#9>

I suggest eliminating as much processed food from your diet as possible and eating whole foods such as nuts, lean meats, and organic fruits and vegetables instead.

- <https://www.womenshealth.gov/publications/our-publications/fact-sheet/heart-healthy-eating.html>

My PCOS is well controlled with diet and exercise, but supplements have made it easier to manage my symptoms because they help correct the hormone imbalance.

- <https://academic.oup.com/jcem/article-abstract/101/11/4322/2765013/Effects-of-Resveratrol-on-Polycystic-Ovary?redirectedFrom=fulltext>
- <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/10/161018143436.htm>

Finally, I've found that cutting out dairy and gluten helps improve my acne.

- <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21034984>

Thanks!
Alli

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:56 PM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

Ok. Thanks for letting me know.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:51 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: PCOS: I promise I haven't forgotten

Today has been a little nuts. I'm planning to get you something tonight or first thing tomorrow. Thanks for your patience.

Sender:	Allison Hall-Jordan < AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com >
Recipient:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Sent Date:	2017/03/20 13:03:25
Delivered Date:	2017/03/20 13:04:10

From:	Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
CC:	Allison Hall-Jordan (AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com) <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject:	Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health
Date:	2017/04/20 15:11:45
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Alli,

I hope this finds you well. I just want to ensure you have a version of the blog that corresponds with my response to Valerie's last email so I have attached it here. NOTE: I have also added my website to my About the Author.

For your easy reference, I have pated below my responses sent yesterday:

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as there language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- • Hormonal (affected by estrogen and progesterone levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- • Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan."It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. • My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>
2. • The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. • 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million; 156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

Please advise of any further updates. Thank you!

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

P: 718-591-2447
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[Read How She Eliminated 50 FIBROIDS Without Surgery!](#)

[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Wed, Apr 19, 2017 at 11:02 AM, Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com> wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Thank you for forwarding your changes to the article and I'm glad that it was more in line with your expectations and guidelines for the piece. We're almost there!

One quick note regarding the link to estrogen and fibroids. While I understand your desire to use caution around this topic, I feel the language used may be a bit too cautious as there language of the studies--including the OWH and [NYS HHS](#) fact sheets both say

- • Hormonal (affected by [estrogen](#) and [progesterone](#) levels) Because no one knows for sure what causes fibroids, we also don't know what causes them to grow or shrink. We do know that they are under hormonal control — both estrogen and progesterone. They grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high. They shrink when anti-hormone medication is used. They also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause
- • Female hormones, estrogen and progesterone, cause fibroids to grow. Fibroids grow rapidly during pregnancy, when hormone levels are high and shrink when anti-hormone medicine is used. Fibroids also stop growing or shrink once a woman reaches menopause.

Therefore, I'd ask that we keep the language as I previously wrote it: "Given the known links between estrogen and fibroids, I worked with my naturopathic doctor to eliminate the estrogen from my nutrition plan."It does not state that estrogen is the definitive cause but rather that there are known links. However, I will defer to you in the end.

I understand and am fine with the other corrections and below are my responses to your questions:

1. • My reference for the percentage statistics is this fact sheet: <https://www.nichd.nih.gov/health/topics/uterine/conditioninfo/Pages/people-affected.aspx>

2. • The 110+ million is equivalent to 70% of the female population recorded by the last census numbers have been as follows:
 1. • 2010: 308 million x 50.8% (populations of women) = 156.4 million;
156.4 x 70% (women affected by fibroids) = 109.5 million

I hope that helps and I hope you're doing something fun! Thank you again for your help in getting it up to code! :)

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie J. Thompson
Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program
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On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 3:22 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

Thanks for the quick turnaround! This version definitely follows the direction we discussed. We made a few additional edits in the attached version. Primarily we provided more cautious language about the link between fibroids and estrogen and we removed the examples of the toxin-free products. The removal of this language helps to get the word count down closer to our preferred number of 700.

The one thing I still need from you is the citation for the stats you provide in the 3rd paragraph.

I've copied my colleague Alli on this email so please Reply to All with your citation. She will make sure this post adheres to our style guide (grammar, etc). I want to keep this moving while I'm on travel and without email access for the next two days. (Alli: I'll be back on Friday and will aim to get final OWH sign off then).

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 12:50 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

My apologies. This time I'll attach the article. :)

On Tue, Apr 18, 2017 at 12:48 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Happy Tuesday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm back in the USA but when I close my eyes I'm back on Charles Bridge! Even on my fourth visit, Prague is a GORGEOUS city. This time we did an excursion to Karlstejn Castle, which included a horse carriage ride up the hill to the actual castle. If you go back, you definitely want to do that.

Attached is the revised article and I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- Head Shot: <https://app.box.com/s/z41oqn4z1viq4y44zsddb3ioefuvcef>
- Family Photo: <https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s2lgs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you again for your guidance. I think I got it right this time. I look forward to your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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On Fri, Apr 14, 2017 at 12:37 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I like your new approach idea as it removes any concerns we would have with providing medical recommendations.

Thanks for your specific questions. Here are my answers to each:

1. While research may suggest a link between estrogen and fibroids, it is scientifically unclear if estrogen is a causal factor. So we would prefer that you not state it as fact. You can indicate that as a result of this research you took steps to reduce your levels and discuss those.

2. Yes, you can keep in the opening quote if you remove the reference.

3 and 4. We are not only prohibited from promoting products, services and providers, but we also cannot give the appearance of an endorsement. That is why we cannot include your MP3 file even it is free. Yes, we can definitely link to your website in your author byline and bio!

I hope this answers your questions. In terms of a date for returning a revised version, is Tues, April 18 by 4 EST possible? I leave for work travel the next day and would like to get this put in to clearance on Tuesday before I go if possible.

Best and safe travels home,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson

Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 7:21 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Yes. Prague is a beautiful city...one of my favorites!

Thank you for forwarding the revised article. Given the changes, I'd like to take a different approach to the article as you've advised--adding in what helped me personally. I will use the approach taken in the current "Becoming a PCOS Diva" article--meaning, speaking about it from a personal perspective verses a medical recommendation. A few questions:

1. • If we remove the reference to the doctors, can I still include the content around the fact that research consistently links the growth of fibroids to estrogen and from there speak to how I reduced my estrogen levels by removing the toxins out of my lifestyles through stress management, diet and exercises?
2. • I see that you removed the first two sentences of my opening quote. Can we keep it in if I simply remove the reference to the book and just use it as an opening quote?
3. • I see that you've deleted the free MP3 that I linked to the article. This is a free teleseminar that helps women learn more about the lifestyle changes they can make to help manage their fibroids. Is there a way to include this info in the article using different wording?
4. • I see that the Becoming a PCOS Diva article had two links to her website. The first was in her byline and the other in her author bio. Will this be something I can also do?

Thank you and by when do you need the revised document?

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3

On Thu, Apr 13, 2017 at 5:57 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I love Prague based on the week I spent there years ago! Hope you are getting good weather as it's a very walkable city.

I apologize for not getting back to you sooner with our edits. The attached has lots of edits but please don't be concerned. The two main things I had to remove were references to your book and the medical doctor who helped you as we are not allowed to promote products or medical professionals by name. In addition I removed the section on the 3 things every woman should know because we will link to our fact sheet on Fibroids:
<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/uterine-fibroids>

We are excited to hear more of your personal story. You can add how diet and exercise helped you, etc., but we cannot include specific dietary recommendations.

Please feel free to email me back with any questions or concerns.

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson

Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 8:06 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm writing to check back in with you on the status of the article. Your last email indicated that you were working on the edits and would be forwarding the final for my review.

The London Women's Health event well and I'm now in Prague on vacation for the week but will be checking email to ensure that I respond to you in a timely manner.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 9:44 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Excellent. Thank you and I look forward to seeing them!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 4:34 PM Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Thanks Gessie,

I received your blog and we are putting it through review now. I'll share with you our edits once complete.

Enjoy your time in London!

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson

Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 5:31 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Attached is the promised draft of my piece in support of "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" weeks (observed April 22 to 29th).

I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- • Head Shot: <https://app.box.com/s/z4loqn4z1viq4y44zsddb3ioefuvcef>
- • Family Photo: <https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s2lgs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you and I look forward to hearing your thoughts/receiving your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Thu, Mar 16, 2017 at 2:43 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I'm so pleased that you are willing to write a piece for our blog and can meet our April timetable. I look forward to receiving your draft the first week in April.

Thanks again!

Valerie Borden

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:14 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Dear Valerie,

It's a pleasure to e-meet you and thank you for your email. It would be my honor to share my story through your blog in support of "National Infertility Awareness Week" and "National Fibroids Awareness Week"--which both occur April 23 to 29th.

I will review the guidelines you've provided and submit the piece by the first week of April. I travel on April 6th to speak at a women's health conference in the London area on April 8th so it will ideally be before then.

I look forward to working with you.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Wed, Mar 15, 2017 at 9:24 AM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Dear Gessie,

I work in the HHS Office on Women's Health and manage our blog. Jenn Bishop Crawford and Jill Wasserman shared with me your interest in providing a blog for our site for April for National Infertility Month, April 23-29. Are you able to provide me with a 500-700 word draft by early April? I need about 2 weeks for

editorial review and clearance on this end. Attached are our blog guidelines that provide specific guidance. Also, feel free to view our past blog posts at: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog>

Please contact me with any questions. We are very excited to share your story with our blog followers!

Best,

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor, Public and Private Partnerships

Division of Strategic Communications

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov

Main: [202-690-7650](tel:202-690-7650) | Direct: [202-205-0270](tel:202-205-0270)

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: [1-800-994-9662](tel:1-800-994-9662) | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

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See-Soar-Succeed ☐,
Gessie Thompson
President/CEO
The UpLift! Group
P: 718-591-2447

(b)(6)

F: 646-478-9179
gessie@upliftgroup.com
www.upliftgroup.com

Sender:	Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com>
Recipient:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>; Allison Hall-Jordan (AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com) <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Sent Date:	2017/04/20 15:10:47
Delivered Date:	2017/04/20 15:11:45

From:	Paul Lee <paul.lee@shcare.net>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	[MARKETING EMAIL]CMS, Congress Move To Stabilize Insurance Markets; GOP May Change ACA Repeal Strategy; Medicaid Changes Coming; 340B Rule Withdrawn
Date:	2017/02/06 08:35:02
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

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Washington, D.C.
202.266
www.strategichealthcare.org

February 6, 2017

New Administration Moves to Stabilize Health Insurance Markets

CMS formally submitted a proposed rule to the Office of Management and Budget last week, which is focused on stabilizing the ACA markets. Details are expected to be made public this week. Limited information is available on OMB's website, [click here](#).

- CMS also released proposed 2018 payment and policy updates for Medicare Advantage and Drug F. The net payment impact would result in an increase of 0.25 percent on average for Medicare Advantage plans. [Click here](#) for the CMS fact sheet on the proposal, and [here](#) for the 2018 Advance Notice and Call Letter. These regs were strongly endorsed by the top Health Committee chairs in the House. Click

House and Senate Committees Working to Stabilize Insurance Markets

Senate and House committees are now focusing on how to stabilize the individual markets created by the Affordable Care Act. Witnesses before two committees pressed repeatedly for certainty and transparency, as soon as possible because insurers must submit their 2018 rates for review by May. In a Finance Committee hearing witnesses described what they described as the ACA's heavy-handed approach toward regulating what products can be sold and what benefits must be provided. A House committee reviewed several bills that would reform insurance plans, such as increasing the variation around the age rating for ACA plans and ensure protections for patients with pre-existing conditions. [Click here](#) to view the Finance Committee hearing and testimony, and [here](#) for the Energy & Commerce hearing.

GOP Senate Leaders Considering "Repair" Strategy for ACA

Top Republican leaders in the Senate are re-thinking the GOP's "Repeal and Replace" Obamacare strategy and now considering a plan that would repair the problems with the current system. While trying to provide more marketplace certainty for private insurance companies, Republicans are finding that the uncertainty created by repeal and replace rhetoric are actually causing insurers to leave the market. Click [here](#) for the report.

ACA Enrollment Lower than Expected

About 9.2 million people signed up for Affordable Care Act plans through HealthCare.gov during the just-closed open enrollment period, according to HHS. This update does not include enrollment figures for the 11 states and District of Columbia that operate their own health insurance exchanges. The announcement comes just days after the Trump Administration canceled millions of dollars worth of ads designed to increase the numbers before the deadline. The Obama Administration had estimated that 13.8 million people nationwide would sign up for plans during the three-month enrollment season. To read the CMS fact sheet, [click here](#).

Aetna Will Exit ACA Exchanges in 2018; Other National Plans Still Deciding

Aetna is not planning to participate in any of the public exchanges created by the health law in 2018, CEO Mark Bertolini said on the insurance giant's fourth quarter earnings call last week. He added Aetna would participate where necessary to support the transition to a new health insurance system, if one is put in place, however uncertainty over efforts to repeal and replace the health law is a factor in the company's 2018 plans. To listen to the webcast of the call and review Aetna guidance and financial documents, [click here](#). Click [here](#) to see how other national plans are looking at the 2018 Exchange market.

Medicaid Policy Changes May Be on Their Way

The House Energy and Commerce Committee is working on making changes to national Medicaid policy. The committee held a hearing last week entitled "Strengthening Medicaid and Prioritizing the Most Vulnerable" which included three draft bills that would limit who qualifies for the benefits. Republicans argue that there's a need to restrain growth in Medicaid's costs and focus the program's funds on what they see as its intended population. The federal share of Medicaid spending may rise to \$650 billion in fiscal 2027 from \$368 billion in fiscal 2016, according to a committee memo. To view the testimony, watch the webcast, and read the Committee background memo, [click here](#).

Price May Be Approved for HHS Secretary by Full Senate this Week

After changing Committee rules, the Senate Finance Committee Republican Members advanced the HHS nomination of Rep. Tom Price to the full Senate vote. Earlier in the week, in answers to questions for the record, Price pledged to senators he would press ahead on new Medicare payment systems, telemedicine and accountable care organizations while giving few details on how. In 136 pages of answers to questions from Finance Committee senators, Price said "significant challenges remain" with implementation of the 2015 Medicare physician payment law but did not elaborate. The final MACRA rule, he added, "took steps to address physician concerns." [Click here](#) to view all his answers to the Committee's questions.

"Two-for-One" Regulation Order Clarified

President Trump issued an Executive Order last week requiring that any time an agency or department publicly proposes a new regulation, it must identify two existing regulations to be repealed. Follow up guidance clarifies the two-for-one rule applies only to "significant" regulations, which are defined as any that impose an economic cost of \$100 million or more. [Click here](#) to review the guidance.

New Studies Throw Cold Water on Doctor Pay-for-Performance Incentives

Looking to increase incentives for improving care, recent federal and private strategies have turned to a "pay-for-performance" model where physicians get bonuses for meeting certain "quality of care standards." According to new studies by the CDC and in Britain, this system simply does not work. One study of British doctors showed a \$1 billion program that links doctors' incomes to measures of health-care quality had no effect. [Click here](#) for more on these studies.

Request for MedPAC, MACPAC Nominations

The Government Accountability Office is calling for nominations for MedPAC and MACPAC Commissioners. Nominations for MedPAC are for rural providers and stakeholders with expertise on the financing and delivery of health care services in rural areas. MACPAC is accepting nominations for any healthcare professional with Medicare expertise. [Click here](#) for the MedPAC announcement, and [here](#) for the MACPAC announcement.

340B Mega Guidance Formally Withdrawn

The Office of Management and Budget withdrew a pending regulation for the 340B drug program that would have tightened controls on which patients, drugs and providers qualify for steep discounts on prescription medicines. [Click here](#) for the announcement.

House Bill Tries To Prevent Price Increases on Old Medicines

The House Energy and Commerce Committee will consider a bill this week that seeks to increase competition for generic drugs to prevent pharmaceutical companies from jacking up the prices of old medicines. The Lower Costs Through Competition Act, introduced last week by Reps. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) and Kurt Schrader (D-OR), would incentivize drug companies to develop generic drugs amid shortages or absence of competition. Click [here](#) for an FDA Law Blog review of the legislation.

ICER Re-Evaluates Its Rx and Device Program

The Institute for Clinical and Economic Review wants to change how it evaluates the cost-effectiveness of new drugs and medical devices - these are moves that will likely ease some of the drug industry's concerns. The independent non-profit research institute produces reports analyzing the evidence on the effectiveness of drugs and establishes cost-effective prices. They also point out when drug prices for new products may contribute to unaffordable short-term cost growth for the U.S. health system. Click [here](#) to read their recommendations.

Provider Coalition Pushes Advocacy on Health Disparities

The Root Cause Coalition, a national, provider-driven, nonprofit organization dedicated to addressing the root causes of health disparities, presented the first installment of their 2017 webinar series last week. During last week's webinar, speakers discussed the likely policy changes around healthcare and federal assistance programs and the ways organizations can come together to make the most impact in their advocacy efforts. To view the slides and a full recording of the webinar click [here](#).

- The Commonwealth Care Alliance, the nation's first social ACO, writes about its success with integrating social care into its care model. Click [here](#).

Heart Failure Rates in U.S. Increasing

American Heart Association data show increasing rates of heart failure in the US, and a new report notes heart failure disease still is the leading cause of death, even as death rates from it decrease. The report found heart failure rates are expected to increase 46% by 2030. Click [here](#) for the report.

For more health policy news, click [here](#).

Paul Lee
Senior Partner
Strategic Health Care
Washington, DC

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The Osteoarthritis Action Alliance Biweekly Digest, Volume 3, Issue 10

We to use this letter to share the latest Osteoarthritis Action Alliance news, and OA-related resources, publications, achievements, events, opportunities from or for our member organizations. Have something you would like to share with us? Please email us at oaaction@unc.edu and we will promote it on our Twitter and Facebook sites and in our upcoming Bi-Weekly digest.

In this issue

- • Osteoarthritis Action Alliance News
- • Events (Conferences, webinars, trainings)
- • Opportunities (Jobs, Internships, Fellowships, Funding)
- • Osteoarthritis in the News
- • Policy, Resources & Reports

Featured this week:

Osteoarthritis and Older Adults:

Resources for Aging and Arthritis

While arthritis can affect people at any age, older adults experience a greater burden from arthritis. In fact, of people 65+, almost 50% have reported doctor-diagnosed arthritis - most commonly osteoarthritis. Therefore, in celebration of both Arthritis Awareness Month and Older Americans Month, we're spreading the news about arthritis resources that may be especially helpful to older adults living with osteoarthritis.



OAAA Honorary Co-Chair Blog: The OAAA's honorary co-chairs, Lennie and Dianne Rosenbluth, provide honest and inspiring insights about their own experiences living with osteoarthritis. [Check out their newest blog post!](#) *Staying in the Game... by Accepting our Limitations*

Physical Activity Programs: Many evidence-based physical activity programs can be very beneficial for older adults, including...

- **Fit and Strong!**: This program combines flexibility, strength training and aerobic walking with health education for older adults with osteoarthritis in their knees and hips. In addition to strengthening and conditioning exercises, participants also complete exercises to help with everyday activities, like getting out of a chair or maintaining balance. These activities can help you maintain your independence and confidence in your ability to manage your arthritis.
- **Enhance Fitness**: This group exercise program includes a stretches, strength training, and low-impact aerobic activities. It can improve balance and flexibility and help make you more active and independent.



Of course, many other evidence-based programs for arthritis may also meet your needs. In addition, exercises like Tai Chi and chair yoga are good options for older adults that can help decrease pain and improve function for people with osteoarthritis.



Falls Prevention: People with osteoarthritis experience 30% more falls and have a 20% greater risk of fractures compared to those without osteoarthritis. Check out [this article on protecting yourself from falls with osteoarthritis](#) and consider a [Falls Prevention Program](#).

Want to learn more about Older Americans Month?

The [Older Americans month website](#) from the Administration on Community Living has a variety of resources on everything from health to employment, safety, and service opportunities. In addition, make sure to follow the Older Americans hashtag, [#AgeOutLoud](#), on Twitter!

Osteoarthritis Action Alliance News

- **HAPPENING TOMORROW!** Come and [Walk With A Doc](#) at UNC Wellness Center-Meadowmont, 100 Sprunt Street, Chapel Hill. Rain or shine. **Saturday, May 20, 10AM** with Dr. Amanda Nelson from the Thurston Arthritis Research Center in Chapel Hill, NC!
- [The OA Action Alliance is pleased to announce our 2017 small grants awardees!](#) The grants will be used to expand the dissemination of the Arthritis-Appropriate Evidence-Based Intervention, [Walk With Ease](#). [Check out profiles of the awardees and their proposed projects!](#)
- We've updated our [Youtube channel!](#) Check us out, and subscribe!

Events

Workshops, Webinars, and Twitter Chats

- **NEW!** [OAAA Lunch & Learn Webinar: Lower Limb Injury Prevention](#). June 21, 12pm ET.
- [OAAA Lunch & Learn Webinar: The Need to Explore Racial Differences in Biomechanical Outcomes Related to Osteoarthritis](#) - [archived recording from May 17 live broadcast](#)

-
- **NEW!** [Tracking the Walking Path: Tools and Programs for Measuring Walking and Walkability](#) (America Walks). June 14, 2017, 2pm ET.

Conferences

Save the Date/Register

- [2017 NIH Pain Consortium Symposium](#), May 31st- June 1st, 2017 , Bethesda MD
- [64th ACSM Annual Meeting, 8th World Congress on Exercise is Medicine](#). May 30-June 3, 2017 Denver, CO
- [National Athletic Trainers' Association Annual Meeting](#). June 26-29, 2017, Houston TX.
- [2017 National Walking Summit](#) St. Paul, MN, September 13-15, 2017
- [National Recreation and Parks Association Annual Conference](#). September 26-28, 2017, New Orleans, LA
- [International Council on Active Aging Conference](#), Orlando, FL, October 12-14, 2017
[Register early by June 5!](#)
- [Obesity Week](#), October 31- Nov 2, 2017, Washington, DC
- [American Public Health Association](#), November 4-8, 2017, Atlanta, GA.
- [American College of Rheumatology](#), November 3-8, 2017, San Diego, CA

Opportunities

• •

Abstract Deadlines

- **NEW!** [ACR/ARHP Annual Meeting call for abstracts](#). Meeting in San Diego, CA, Nov 3-8, 2017. Abstract deadline June 19.

Funding

- **NEW!** [Health Data for Action](#) - funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for research projects using data from either the [Health Care Cost Institute \(HCCI\)](#) or [athenahealth](#). Up to \$150,000 to accommodate studies up to 12 months. Brief proposals due May 24, 2017.
- [Self-Management Interventions and Technologies to Sustain Health and Optimize Functional Capabilities \(R01\)](#) - clinical research on self-management interventions and technologies that improve health and quality of life in persons needing assistance to optimize and maintain existing functional capabilities, prevent/delay disabilities and navigate their environment. Standard dates apply.
- [Testing Interventions for Health-Enhancing Physical Activity \(R01\)](#) - research on multi-level intervention programs of 1 to 2 years in length that are designed to increase physical activity. Maximum project period of 5 years. Applications due June 5, 2017.
- [National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases - Research Innovations for Scientific Knowledge \(RISK\) for Musculoskeletal Diseases \(R61/R33\)](#) - funding for disease-focused translational studies, up to, but not including, first in human studies, especially projects that are considered too risky, premature, controversial, or unconventional for other NIH mechanisms. Limited to \$250,000 per year direct costs for a maximum of 3 years. Earliest submission date June 10, 2017. Application deadline: July 10, 2017.
- [Developing Interventions for Health-Enhancing Physical Activity \(R21/R33\)](#) - funding for research aimed at developing multi-level interventions that will increase physical activity. Up to \$325,000 in direct costs for the first two years, then up to \$525,000 in direct costs for the remaining 3 years. Applications due June 16, 2017.
- [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation: Evidence for Action: Investigator-Initiated Research to Build a Culture of Health](#): \$2.2 million in grants for research on the impacts of innovative programs, policies, and partnerships on health determinants and outcomes. Applications accepted on a rolling basis. Grant funding awarded through July 2017.
- [Grants.gov-Funding Opportunities for Osteoarthritis](#)

HHS-18-0191-D-000893

Osteoarthritis in the News

- [For Veterans with arthritis, VA offers a variety of treatment](#)
- [Living well prevents arthritis, debunking the 'wear and tear' theory, study reveals](#)
- [Steroid shots do little for knee pain of arthritis](#)
- [4 in 10 People Will Suffer Arthritic Hands Over Lifetime](#)
- [Knee cracking, popping could be early sign of osteoarthritis](#)
- [Research Reveals Links Between Osteoarthritis and Animal Fat Consumption](#)
- [New study finds weight loss can slow down degeneration of knee joints](#)
- [Radiographic knee OA linked with increased risk for premature death](#)
- [VIDEO: Association exists between osteoarthritis, gout](#)
- [Osteoarthritis: Preventing key molecule deficiency may delay need for joint replacements](#)
- [Arthroscopic surgery not recommended for almost all cases of knee osteoarthritis](#)
- [Possible arthritis drug discovered because lab mice wouldn't mate](#)

Policy

- [NEW! NCOA Straight Talk for Seniors®: The American Health Care Act](#)

Resources & Reports

- [Walkable Communities are Healthy, Wealthy & Wise A Fact Sheet from the Transit-Walkability Collaborative](#)



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Friends, Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or with a request for additional information on any of the news items, program listings, or resources below.

New Reports on the Opioid Epidemic's Impact on ER Visits and the Child Welfare System

[Opioid Overdoses Treated in Emergency Departments](#)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a *Vital Signs* report showing that emergency department visits for suspected opioid overdoses increased 30 percent in all parts of the U.S. from July 2016 through September 2017. In addition to highlighting that opioid overdoses increased for men and women, across all age groups, and in all regions, the report helps us see how communities, law enforcement, the medical community, public health and government can work together in this fight. Click [here](#) for the full *Vital Signs* report, news release, fact sheet, and other public engagement material – including a data-rich, one-minute video.

[WEBINAR Coordinating Clinical and Public Health Responses to Opioid Overdoses Treated in Emergency Departments](#)

Tues., March 13, from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. ET

Join the 20th U.S. Surgeon General, Acting CDC Director, CDC officials and other subject-matter experts for a webinar to discuss the latest data, indicating that rates of overdoses treated in emergency departments are rising across all regions and require a coordinated response between public health, clinicians, public safety, and community organizations. Learn more [here](#).

Follow CDC through Twitter [@CDCgov](#) and on [Facebook](#), to spread the news and help fight our opioid epidemic!

[The Relationship between Substance Use Prevalence and Child Welfare Caseloads](#)

The Assistant Secretary of Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) has just released the following [two briefs](#) considering the relationship between the opioid epidemic

and increased child welfare caseloads. After more than a decade of sustained declines in the national foster care caseload, beginning in 2012, the number of children entering foster care began to rise. While many believe parental substance use – including prescription drugs, illicit drugs and alcohol, and especially opioids – has been the primary cause of the increase in foster care placements, thus far there has been little empirical evidence to support this assertion.

A series of research briefs will describe the study's findings. Links to individual briefs appear below. Additional briefs will be added as they become available throughout 2018.

- [Substance use, the Opioid Epidemic and the Child Welfare System: Key Takeaways from a Mixed Methods Study](#)
- [The Relationship between Substance Use Prevalence and Child Welfare Caseloads](#)

Upcoming Webinar on Building Community Capacity

NEW! [Opioid Epidemic: Strengthening Your Community's Capacity to Connect to Vital Services and Support](#)

Wed. March 28, 12:00 – 1:00 p.m ET

Register [here](#).

Faith and community leaders are seizing the opportunity to strengthen their response to the current opioid epidemic. With the help of local experts, they are learning how to respond to an emergency, provide on-going recovery support, and even make referrals to treatment.

Join the HHS Partnership Center, **Monty Burks**, State Director of Special Projects and Faith-based Initiative for the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, and **Kevin Hoffman**, President and Program Director of Three Oaks Center in Dayton, Ohio, to learn how faith and community-based leaders are joining their compassion with a proven expertise that's bringing hope and healing to their communities.

Please help us promote this learning opportunity by sharing our "pinned" post on your social media channels: <https://twitter.com/PartnersforGood>

HHS Community Health News and Resources

[Value-based Transformation of America's Healthcare System](#)

On March 8, HHS Secretary Azar provided remarks to America's Health Insurance Plans members on the challenge and opportunities of transforming our healthcare system from paying for procedures and sickness to one of value and outcomes.

[Consumer Advisory: Older Adults and Medication Safety](#)

Older Adults and Medication Safety is part of the Eldercare Locator's Critical Conversations series of fact sheets, which address emerging topics and important issues impacting the health and well-being of older adults. It is a new fact sheet for the [Eldercare Locator website](#) on medication safety and older adults with a special section on opioids. This project was supported, in part, by from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services.

[How Do Drugs Change Your Brain? Test Your Knowledge](#)

Share this quiz with your teens from the National Institute on Drug Abuse for Teens. Did you know drugs can change how well your brain works? Take the quiz to learn more: <http://bit.ly/2CZrf5m>

Grant Information

[Fiscal Year 2018 Title X Services Funding Opportunity Announcement](#)

The new funding opportunity announcement (FOA) for the [Title X family planning program](#) was released on February 23rd. These grants will assist in the establishment and operation of voluntary family planning projects that will offer a broad range of acceptable and effective family planning methods and services including natural family planning methods, infertility services, and services for adolescents. This funding announcement ([PA-FPH-18-001](#)) is for all 60 geographic service areas.

Applications for the Title X family planning services grants are due May 24, 2018 at 6 p.m. ET. The grants are expected to begin in September of this year.

You can read the full [funding opportunity](#) announcement (PDF) and the FOA [Q&A](#) document [here](#).

WEBINAR: Thurs., March 22, 2018, 2 p.m. ET [technical assistance webinar](#) for the FOA will be on.

Participants can also join the event directly at:

<https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PWXW7109625&p=7340934&t=c>

With great thanks for all you do in communities across the country, Heidi and the team at the Partnership Center

Heidi Christensen, Public Affairs Specialist
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- • Opportunities (Jobs, Internships, Fellowships, Funding)
- • Osteoarthritis in the News
- • Policy, Resources & Reports

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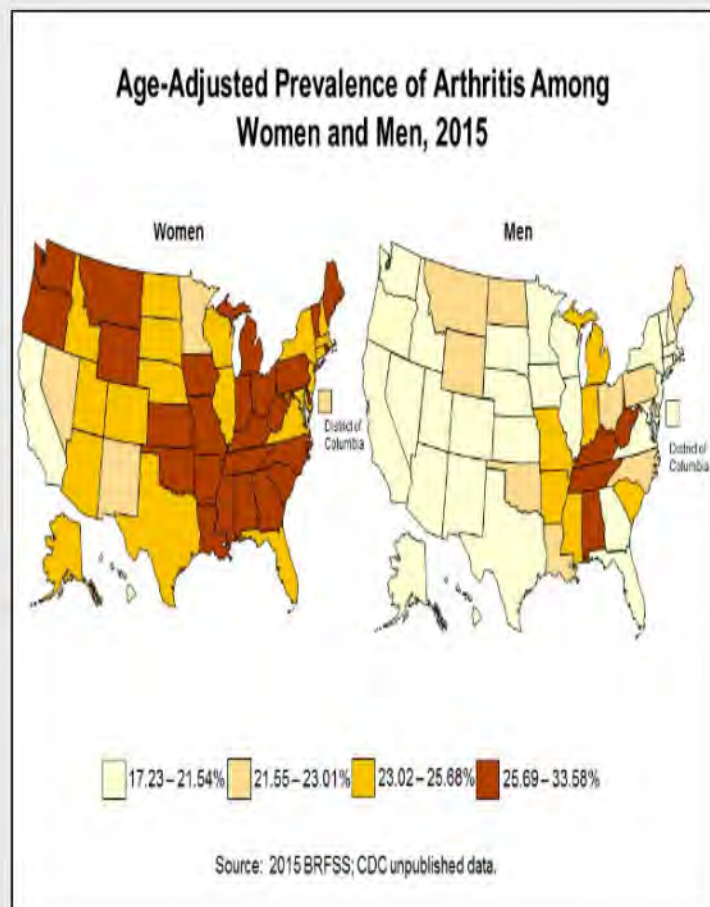
Health Disparities and Osteoarthritis

This May is Arthritis Awareness Month, and the OAAA and its members will be busy all month long, working to bring awareness to the burden of osteoarthritis (OA) and to make reducing OA prevalence and disability a national public health priority. With more than 30 million people affected by osteoarthritis and 54 million people affected by arthritis (1 in 4 US adults), there is no time to lose.

But, *arthritis doesn't affect all groups of people equally* - some groups, like women, veterans, and Native Americans, experience a higher prevalence of arthritis compared with other groups. Still others, like African-Americans and Latinos, experience activity limitations from arthritis to a greater degree than other groups. This Arthritis Month, we're focusing our efforts on bringing light to the disproportionate burden of arthritis faced by these groups.

What are some resources to learn more?

- [View our Lunch & Learn webinar this month!](#) Dr. Portia Flowers will be presenting on health disparities and biomechanical outcomes related to osteoarthritis. May 17, 12pm ET.
- The OAAA is proud to offer [educational brochures on weight management and joint pain in both English and Spanish](#) -



check them out and share!

- • [Check out the resource page from Movement is Life's Start Moving, Start Living Campaign!](#) Movement is Life is dedicated to reducing health disparities in musculoskeletal diseases among women and minorities.
- • Several evidence-based programs for arthritis are offered in Spanish! These include the Arthritis Foundation's [Camine con Gusto](#) program (Walk with Ease), [Programa de Manejo Personal de la Artritis](#) (Spanish Arthritis Self-Management Program), and [Tomando Control de su Salud](#) (Spanish Chronic Disease Self-Management Program)

Make sure to [follow us on Twitter](#) and [like us on Facebook](#) to keep up with our Arthritis Awareness Month activities! Use the hashtag #ArthritisMonth when you post!

Osteoarthritis Action Alliance News

- • Come and [Walk With A Doc](#) at UNC Wellness Center- Meadowmont, 100 Sprunt Street, Chapel Hill. Rain or shine. **Saturday, May 20, 10AM** with Dr. Amanda Nelson from the Thurston Arthritis Research Center in Chapel Hill, NC!
- • [The OA Action Alliance is pleased to announce our 2017 small grants awardees!](#) The grants will be used to expand the dissemination of the Arthritis-Appropriate Evidence-Based Intervention, [Walk With Ease](#). [Check out profiles of the awardees and their proposed projects!](#)
- • We've updated our [Youtube channel!](#) Check us out, and subscribe!

Events

Workshops, Webinars, and Twitter Chats

- [OAAA Lunch & Learn Webinar: Health Disparities and Biomechanical Outcomes Related to Osteoarthritis. May 17, 12pm ET.](#)

-
- [Webinar: Walking and Walkability in Rural Communities and Small Towns \(America Walks\). May 10, 2017, 2pm ET.](#)
 - [Webinar: Implementation of the National Pain Strategy - Moving Toward Improving Health and Quality of Life of Individuals Living with Chronic Pain Listening Session \(NIH, US Dept of Health & Human Services\). May 11, 2017, 8:30am-4:30pm ET.](#)

Conferences

Save the Date/Register

- [Bridging Health and Community Community Agency & Health Symposium](#), May 15-16, 2017, Oakland, CA
- [2017 NIH Pain Consortium Symposium](#), May 31st- June 1st, 2017 , Bethesda MD
- [64th ACSM Annual Meeting, 8th World Congress on Exercise is Medicine](#). May 30-June 3, 2017 Denver, CO
- [National Athletic Trainers' Association Annual Meeting](#), June 26-29, 2017, Houston TX.
- [2017 National Walking Summit](#) St. Paul, MN, September 13-15, 2017
- **NEW!** [National Recreation and Parks Association Annual Conference](#). September 26-28, 2017, New Orleans, LA
- [International Council on Active Aging Conference](#), Orlando, FL, October 12-14, 2017

Register early by June 5!

- Obesity Week, October 31- Nov 2, 2017, Washington, DC
- American Public Health Association, November 4-8, 2017, Atlanta, GA
- American College of Rheumatology, November 3-8, 2017, San Diego, CA

Opportunities

- **DEADLINE APPROACHING!** The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Connections Career Development Program is accepting applications. Early career scholars from historically disadvantaged or underrepresented groups in research are encouraged to apply. Grants are 12 months in duration and up to \$50,000. Applications due May 16, 2017.

Funding

- **DEADLINE APPROACHING!** Empowering Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities through Chronic Disease Self-Management Education Programs - projects that encourage the implementation and sustainability of evidence-based programs for managing chronic conditions. Up to \$900,000 will be awarded in a 3-year grant. Applications due May 12, 2017.
- **DEADLINE APPROACHING!** Health Data for Action from the RWJF. Funding for research that uses data from either the Health Care Cost Institute (HCCI) or athenahealth. Up to \$150,000 for 12 months. Informational Webinar May 2, Brief Applications due May 12, 2017.
- **DEADLINE APPROACHING!** Specialized Centers of Excellence on Minority Health and Health Disparities - Funds projects to establish National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities Centers of Excellence in eligible institutions of higher education. Up to \$950,000 in direct costs annually will be funded for up to 5 years. Earliest submission April 14, 2017. Application deadline: May 15, 2017.
- Self-Management Interventions and Technologies to Sustain Health and Optimize Functional Capabilities (R01) - clinical research on self-management interventions and technologies that improve health and quality of life in persons needing assistance to optimize and maintain existing functional capabilities, prevent/delay disabilities and navigate their environment. Standard dates apply.
- Testing Interventions for Health-Enhancing Physical Activity (R01) - research on multi-level intervention programs of 1 to 2 years in length that are designed to increase physical activity. Maximum project period of 5 years. Applications due June 5, 2017.
- National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases - Research Innovations for Scientific Knowledge (RISK) for Musculoskeletal Diseases - funding for disease-focused translational studies, up to, but not including, first in human

The latest in media, policy, practice on osteoarthritis

Osteoarthritis in the News

- • [Opioids, non-opioid medication equally effective for chronic back, osteoarthritis pain: 5 quick notes](#)
- • [Myths about musculoskeletal pain and Aboriginal Australians prevent high quality care](#)
- • [Osteoarthritis Could Be Prevented By Removing Old Cells](#)
- • [Exercise program participation linked with reduced pain in patients with knee OA](#)
- • [Less pain, greater self-efficacy led to better walking capacity in women with knee OA](#)
- • [Healthy lifestyle is key to preventing diseases in seniors](#)
- • [Steroid injections, physio and fish oils: what really works for painful knees?](#)
- • [3D printing could provide treatment to osteoarthritis patients in the near future](#)
- • [Osteoarthritis: Knee joint degeneration slowed with weight loss, study confirms](#)

Resources & Reports

- • **NEW!** [Walkable Communities are Healthy, Wealthy & Wise A Fact Sheet from the Transit-Walkability Collaborative](#)



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Sender:	OA Action Alliance <oaaction@unc.edu>; OA Action Alliance <oaaction=unc.edu@mail26.sea21.rsgsv.net>
Recipient:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Sent Date:	2017/05/05 14:05:31
Delivered Date:	2017/05/05 14:06:21

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
CC:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>
Subject:	RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team
Date:	2017/06/21 14:00:14
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Sorry – I meant to say “Katrina” and not “Laura” below.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 1:51 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Hi Valerie,

I’m not sure what type of relationship/partnership OWH would like to have with this group, and that would shift the tone of a response. We just published an update to all three eating disorder fact sheets on Friday, June 16, 2017 (so it’s difficult to tell if Laura is referring to these brand new fact sheets or the old ones which were indeed outdated).

As part of the update, the sources for the evidence behind the information were also published at the end of the fact sheets as endnotes. Of course we’re always interested in correcting any errors in the fact sheets and would be happy to consider any information the group would like to submit in that regard. In addition to the citations on the fact sheet, the user can also review the government and non-government subject matter expert reviewers at the bottom of the page.

Let me know what else you might need. Thanks.

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 1:43 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: FW: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Brooke and Ann,

See end of note below with request to connect with someone at OWH to discuss incorporating some evidence-based updates about eating disorders on the OWH website.

How would you like to respond? I believe you recently updated the Eating Disorders fact sheet.

Valerie

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 12:29 PM
To: 'Laura Koehler'
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); 'Allison Hall-Jordan'
Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Hi Laura,

Thank you so much for following-up with us! That is wonderful to hear the reach of the Women's Health Week! I've spoken with our social media team and our results from the week were as follows:

Facebook

- • Reach – 37,642
- • 242 reactions
- • 2 comments
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Twitter

- • Impressions – 6,119
- • 160 engagements
- • 32 likes
- • 33 retweets

Also I'm wondering if you might be able to direct me to the best person within OWH to discuss potentially incorporating some evidence-based updates about eating disorders on the OWH website?

Best,

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.

Policy Director

[Eating Disorders Coalition](#)

440 First Street, NW STE 430

Washington, DC 20001

P: 202-909-0774

www.eatingdisorderscoalition.org

From: Laura Koehler [<mailto:lkoehler@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2017 3:13 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>; jill.wasserman1@hhs.gov; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Dear Katrina,

Thank you for making the 18th annual National Women's Health Week a success. The numbers are still rolling in, but with the help of partners like you, we are seeing impactful results. More than 72,000 people watched our [Recipe for Health video](#), more than 17,000 women took our [quiz to learn their health style](#), and we reached more than 55 million people through social media.

We appreciate you joining the celebration and spreading the word through your social media channels and via the Huffington Post blog series. It's great to hear about our partners' successes, so if there are any other NWHW activities or metrics that you'd be able to share with us, please let us know.

We want to stay in touch. If there are any upcoming activities or events that your organization is planning for which an OWH spokesperson could be of value, please contact Valerie Borden. Her contact information is at the end of this email.

Thank you again for your support and all you do for women's health. It was a pleasure working with you, and we look forward to continuing our partnership again next year.

Sincerely,

The National Women's Health Week Team

and

Valerie Borden, MPA
Senior Advisor for Public and Private Partnerships
Division of Strategic Communications
Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov
Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-0270

Jill Lauren Wasserman, MPH
Health Education Specialist and NWHW Lead
Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov
Main: 202.690.7650 | Direct: 202.260.9275

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>
Sent Date:	2017/06/21 14:00:14

From:	OA Action Alliance <oaaction@unc.edu>
SentVia:	OA Action Alliance <oaaction=unc.edu@mail86.us4.mcsv.net>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	[MARKETING EMAIL]Biweekly Digest: September is Rheumatic Disease Awareness Month - and more!
Date:	2017/09/08 14:03:40
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Your resource for all things osteoarthritis

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The Osteoarthritis Action Alliance Biweekly Digest, Volume 3, Issue 18

In this issue

- • Osteoarthritis Action Alliance News
- • Events (Conferences, webinars, trainings)
- • Opportunities (Jobs, Internships, Fellowships, Funding)
- • Osteoarthritis in the News
- • Policy, Resources & Reports

Featured this week:

September is Rheumatic Disease Awareness Month (#RDAM)

This month, the Osteoarthritis Action Alliance is proud to join the American College of Rheumatology's SimpleTasks Campaign and other rheumatic disease advocacy groups around the world to recognize Rheumatic Disease Awareness Month. More than **54 million people** in the United States suffer from one of more than 100 rheumatic diseases - and this month, we are all coming together to speak with one voice.



This year, the theme of Rheumatic Disease Awareness Month is **"you don't have to be an athlete to have sore joints"**. The SimpleTasks campaign released a new infographic describing some of the common factors that may increase your risk for osteoarthritis. These include athletic injuries, but also high BMI and injuries from vehicle accidents or falls. Women are also more likely to develop OA than men.

Other Rheumatic Disease Awareness Month Resources

- [Rheumatic Diseases: An Overview](#) (Fact Sheet)
- [Impact, Cost, and Healthcare Challenge of Rheumatic Diseases](#) (Fact Sheet)
- [Arthritis Prevalence by State, 2015](#) (how many people in your state have doctor diagnosed arthritis?)

And make sure to spread the word on social media using the hashtag **#RDAM**. Together, we have one voice!



Osteoarthritis Action Alliance News

- **NEW!** Looking for a new opportunity to walk in Chapel Hill, NC? The Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Department is participating in A Walk in the Park, a joint initiative of the National Recreation and Park Association and Walk with a Doc. A Free Walk in the Park program with Walk with Ease classes will be offered Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9am at the Chapel Hill Community Center, starting Monday September 11. No registration required.
- **NEXT WEEK!** The OAAA is proud to be a sponsor for the 2017 National Walking Summit, hosted by America Walks in St. Paul MN Sept 13-15, 2017. We will also be presenting a poster on the Walkability Audit, an effort to determine the most important elements of the environment to promote walkability for people with arthritis. **Come find us at the summit!**
- **NEXT WEEKEND!** Come and Walk With A Doc at UNC Wellness Center- Meadowmont, 100 Sprunt Street, Chapel Hill. Rain or shine. **Saturday, September 16, 10AM** with Dr. Amanda Nelson from the Thurston Arthritis Research Center in Chapel Hill, NC!
- We've updated our YouTube channel! Check us out, and subscribe!
- Connect with our new LinkedIn company page! Follow us to receive updates about the Alliance's activities.

Events

Workshops, Webinars, and Twitter Chats

- • Lunch and Learn webinar with Tamara Huff, MD- Musculoskeletal Health Disparities: Breaking the Vicious Cycle. Wed, Sept 20 at 12 PM ET. Register today!
-
- • **NEW!** Webinar: Arthritis State of the Science Update: Results of Two Clinical Trials to Help People with Arthritis Continue to Work and Exercise (BU-ENACT). September 21, 2017, 11:30-1:00pm ET.
 - • **NEW!** Webinar: Workplace Wellness: Walk This Way (America Walks). October 5, 2017, 2pm ET.
 - • **NEW!** NCOA State of Science Webinar Series: Disability
 - • State of the Science: Long-Term Services and Supports and Caregiving for Adults Aging with Disability. Monday, October 16, 2017, 12pm-2pm ET.
 - • State of the Science: Autonomy and Access for Adults Aging with Disability. Wednesday, October 18, 2017, 12pm-2pm ET.
 - • State of the Science: Health Care Policy, and Implications for Adults Aging with Long-Term Disability. Friday, October 20, 2017, 12pm-2pm ET.

Conferences

Save the Date/Register

- • 2017 National Walking Summit St. Paul, MN, September 13-15, 2017. REGISTER NOW!
- • Overcoming Obesity 2017, from the Obesity Medicine Association. San Antonio, TX, September 13-17, 2017
- • National Recreation and Parks Association Annual Conference. September 26-28, 2017, New Orleans, LA
- • International Council on Active Aging Conference, Orlando, FL, October 12-14, 2017
Register early by June 5!
- • Obesity Week, October 31- Nov 2, 2017, Washington, DC. REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!
- • American Public Health Association, November 4-8, 2017, Atlanta, GA
- • American College of Rheumatology, November 3-8, 2017, San Diego, CA.
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!
- • Movement is Life Caucus, November 9-10, 2017, Washington, D.C.



Osteoarthritis in the News

- [Personalized risk calculator for knee OA may promote knowledge, change](#)
- [Study using VA system showed racial differences for total knee arthroplasty rates](#)
- [Why had this man's arthritis become unbearable overnight?](#)
- [Savvy Senior: Exercises that help ease arthritis pain and stiffness](#)
- [Arthritis: The Nation's Joint Problem](#)
- [Rise in cases of knee pain among young population](#)
- [Osteoarthritis: Could this algae extract lead to a cure?](#)
- [What is knee effusion? Causes, symptoms, and tests for water on the knee](#)
- [Ibuprofen associated with blood pressure rise in arthritis patients at cardiovascular risk](#)
- [Get Physical: Coming to grips with osteoarthritis](#)
- [Study Highlights Lack of Consensus in Pain Management Among Clinicians](#)
- [High heels causing deformity and injury](#)

Policy

- [Despite Failed Vote, Congress Continues Work on Health Care \(AAOS\)](#)

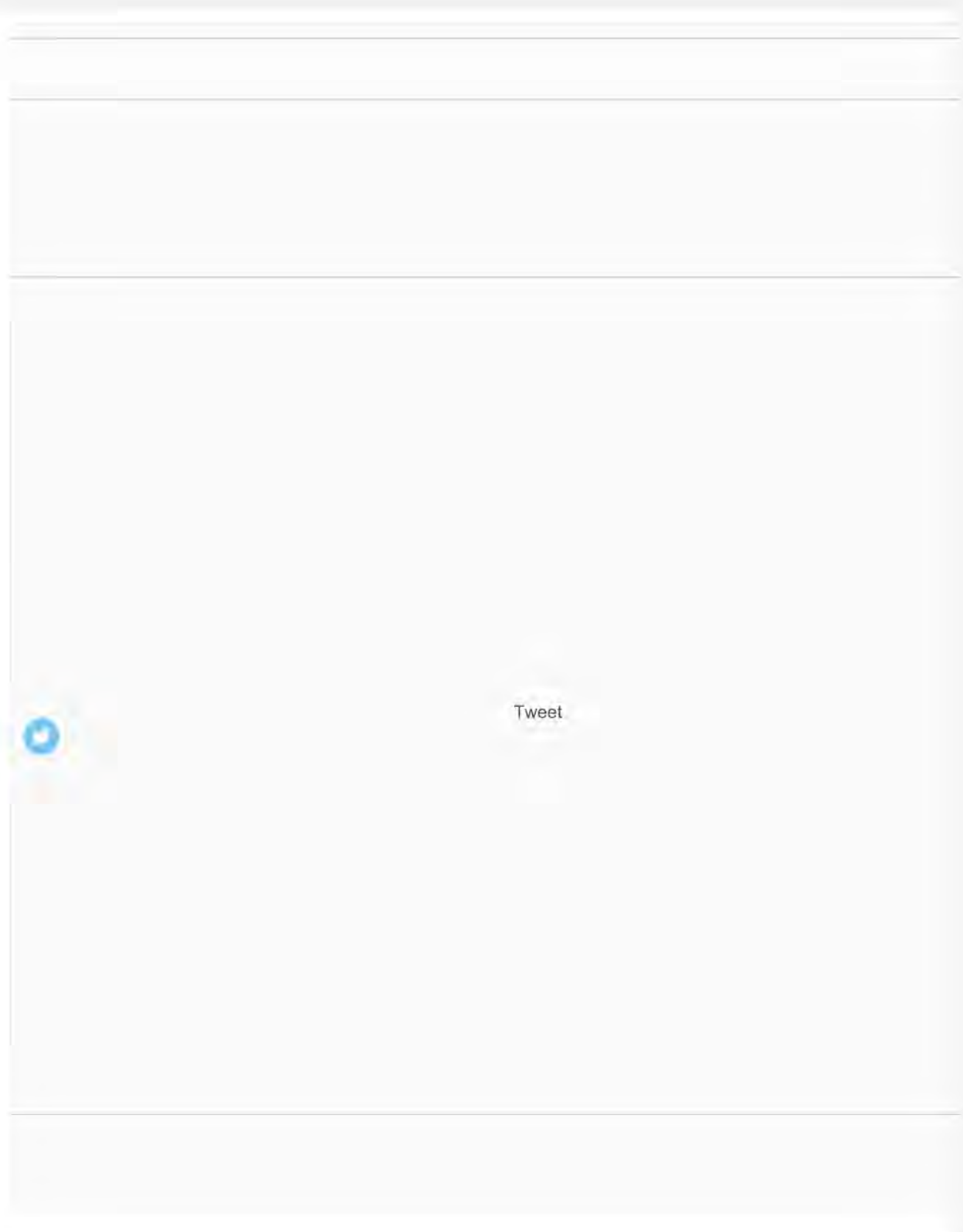
Resources & Reports

- **NEW!** [The State of Obesity: An interactive report from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Trust for America's Health.](#)
- [STATISTICAL BRIEF #487: Expenditures for Commonly Treated Conditions among Adults Age 18 and Older in the U.S. Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population, 2013](#)

We to use this newsletter to share the latest Osteoarthritis Action Alliance news, and OA-related resources, publications, achievements, events, opportunities from or for our member organizations. Have something you would like to share with us? Please email us at oaaction@unc.edu and we will promote it on our Twitter and Facebook sites and in our upcoming Bi-Weekly digest.

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Our mailing address is:

Osteoarthritis Action Alliance
Thurston Arthritis Research Center, University of North Carolina
3300 Thurston Building, CB 7280
Chapel Hill, NC 27599

[Add us to your address book](#)

Sender:	OA Action Alliance <oaaction@unc.edu>; OA Action Alliance <oaaction=unc.edu@mail86.us4.mcsv.net>
Recipient:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Sent Date:	2017/09/08 14:02:44
Delivered Date:	2017/09/08 14:03:40

From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
To:	Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject:	RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team
Date:	2017/06/27 16:23:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Katrina,

Thanks for letting me know and sharing the dates the eating disorders experts will be in DC. This is very helpful! You are correct in your observation that convening a panel is something we are considering to address the eating disorders provisions in the 21st Century Cures Act.

I will keep you abreast of our activities once I know more.

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org]
Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2017 12:29 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Good Morning Valerie,

Thank you for providing this information. I am going to send this over to our Research Advisory Board to see if we might suggest adding anything to it ☺. Will get back to you in a couple of weeks!

Regarding the potential of convening a panel of experts to discuss opportunities for more information, awareness, education and training around eating disorders- that is wonderful to hear and actually sounds like steps to activating some of the eating disorders provisions in 21st Century Cures.

We'd welcome the opportunity to help you bring in experts, as we did for the White House Eating Disorder Roundtable last September. For your information, experts from around the nation (from Harvard to Stanford to everything in between) will be in DC around the following dates which may make it easier to coordinate if you will be proceeding:

- July 24th (Meeting with the FDA)- so they could stay for a July 25th meeting- *Note this may be a little difficult though given its only a few weeks away*
- Aug 8 (Meeting with SAMHSA)- they could meet on the 7th
- Oct. 3-5th (Tentative Hill Day which will be finalized timing next week)- they could tag on a day that week

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.

Policy Director

Eating Disorders Coalition

440 First Street, NW STE 430

Washington, DC 20001

P: 202-909-0774

www.eatingdisorderscoalition.org

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 4:20 PM

To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>

Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Hi Katrina,

I'm getting back to you from the Office on Women's Health on your inquiry to Laura about incorporating some evidence-based updates about eating disorders on the OWH website. Earlier this month we updated our three fact sheets on eating disorders with the latest evidence-based information. Each fact sheet was reviewed by federal and non-federal experts. The names and affiliations of the reviewers are listed at the end of each fact sheet. Please let me know if you feel we missed anything.

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/anorexia-nervosa#11>

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/binge-eating-disorder>

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/bulimia-nervosa>

Also, we may be convening a panel of experts to discuss opportunities and need for information, awareness, education, and training about eating disorders. I will keep you posted on whether this happens and make sure your organization is included in the invitation.

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor for Public and Private Partnerships

Division of Strategic Communications



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov

Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-0270
Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 12:29 PM
To: 'Laura Koehler'
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); 'Allison Hall-Jordan'
Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Hi Laura,

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Policy Director
[Eating Disorders Coalition](#)
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Washington, DC 20001
P: 202-909-0774
www.eatingdisorderscoalition.org

From: Laura Koehler [<mailto:lkoehler@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2017 3:13 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>

Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>; jill.wasserman1@hhs.gov; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>

Subject: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Dear Katrina,

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We appreciate you joining the celebration and spreading the word through your social media channels and via the Huffington Post blog series. It's great to hear about our partners' successes, so if there are any other NWHW activities or metrics that you'd be able to share with us, please let us know.

We want to stay in touch. If there are any upcoming activities or events that your organization is planning for which an OWH spokesperson could be of value, please contact Valerie Borden. Her contact information is at the end of this email.

Thank you again for your support and all you do for women's health. It was a pleasure working with you, and we look forward to continuing our partnership again next year.

Sincerely,

The National Women's Health Week Team

and

Valerie Borden, MPA
Senior Advisor for Public and Private Partnerships
Division of Strategic Communications
Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov
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Jill Lauren Wasserman, MPH
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200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov
Main: 202.690.7650 | Direct: 202.260.9275

Sender:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
Recipient:	Katrina Velasquez < kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org >
Sent Date:	2017/06/27 16:23:48
Delivered Date:	2017/06/27 16:23:00

From:	Karen Thomas, Thomas PR <kthomas@thomaspr.com>
SentVia:	Karen Thomas, Thomas PR <kthomas=thomaspr.com@mail168.atl81.rsgsv.net>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	[MARKETING EMAIL]Arizona Surgeon Survives Cancer & Invents World Record Setting Cancer Surgery Technique - Removes Largest Cancer Tumor with New In-Bag Morcellation
Date:	2017/08/02 11:41:08
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

**ARIZONA SURGEON SURVIVES CANCER &
INVENTS WORLD RECORD SETTING CANCER SURGERY**

Release: <http://www.thomas-pr.com/drmarchand/drmarchandrelease.html>

**Dr. Greg Marchand MD Sets World Record in Tumor-Removal Surgery
for Removing Largest Cancerous Tumor:**

**17-centimeter (Approximately 7 inch) Ovarian Tumor Removed through
In-Bag Morcellation Technique with Belly Button Incision Smaller than a
Dime**

--For Minimal Scarring, Less Pain, and Faster Recovery--



Dr. Greg Marchand MD Endocatch Device Left: Typical Surgery with Large Scar

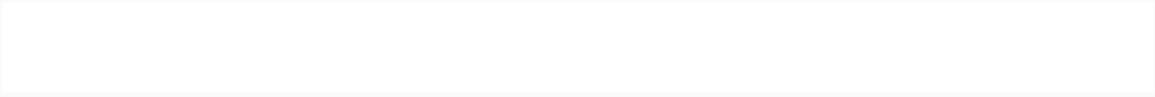
Right: Surgery with Dr. Marchand's Technique

B-roll: <https://youtu.be/xotuRC-jalc>

Video: <https://youtu.be/PgXB5i7FIxE>

Unedited: <https://youtu.be/4NtmXNdkFg4>

Mesa, AZ, August 2, 2017 -- **Dr. Greg J. Marchand** <http://gregmarchandmd.com/>, an award-winning board-certified obstetrician and gynecologist dedicated to reducing invasive surgeries, recently became the **first U.S. surgeon to earn a prestigious accreditation for his outstanding record of performing and promoting minimally invasive procedures. The World Record Academy awarded Dr. Greg J. Marchand and his surgical team the world's record for removing the largest cancerous tumor -- a 17-centimeter (6.69-inch) cancerous ovarian tumor about the size of a junior sized soccer ball -- using an incision smaller than a dime.**











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Recipient:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Sent Date:	2017/08/02 11:38:37
Delivered Date:	2017/08/02 11:41:08

From:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	RE: 2018 OWH TDV Month Blog Draft_2.12
Date:	2018/02/21 12:26:19
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Oops! Forgot to send you the fact sheet I was using that had the 2013 survey:
<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/teen-dating-violence-factsheet-a.pdf>

From: Allison Hall-Jordan
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 12:04 PM
To: 'Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)' <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Cc: Allyson Harkey <AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>
Subject: RE: 2018 OWH TDV Month Blog Draft_2.12

How does this look? Give me a call if you want to chat: 202-706-7439. Thanks!

From: Allison Hall-Jordan
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 9:21 AM
To: 'Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)' <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Cc: Allyson Harkey <AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>
Subject: RE: 2018 OWH TDV Month Blog Draft_2.12

Hi Val,

Here's a revised version for your review. So sorry about using the 2013 results instead of the 2015. CDC still uses it in some of its teen dating violence resources, so I assumed it was the most recent. The data is slightly different—we're not breaking it down by girls versus boys. Also, because the stats are in percentage form, we changed the other ratios to percentages for consistency.

There doesn't appear to be a more recent data from the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence survey. All of the reports we're finding on CDC's website use the same data set.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Lastly, I took EO off since she's on vacation.

Thanks!
Alli

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 9:32 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>
Cc: Allyson Harkey <AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagersharp.com>
Subject: RE: 2018 OWH TDV Month Blog Draft_2.12

Alli,

Jenn's comments back were that there is an updated YRBS from 2015. The one you referenced is from 2013. And is the 2010 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence survey the most recent?

Val

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 4:22 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Allyson Harkey; Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: RE: 2018 OWH TDV Month Blog Draft_2.12

Hi Val,

Please let me know if you think these changes adequately address Jenn's comments.

Thanks!
Alli

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 10:42 AM
To: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>
Cc: Allyson Harkey <AHarkey@HagerSharp.com>; Elizabeth Osborn <eosborn@hagerssharp.com>
Subject: RE: 2018 OWH TDV Month Blog Draft_2.12

Can you address the questions in the attached? If you need to talk you can reach me on my cell at 703-220-0340.

From: Allison Hall-Jordan [<mailto:AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 5:01 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Allyson Harkey; Elizabeth Osborn
Subject: 2018 OWH TDV Month Blog Draft_2.12

Hi Val,

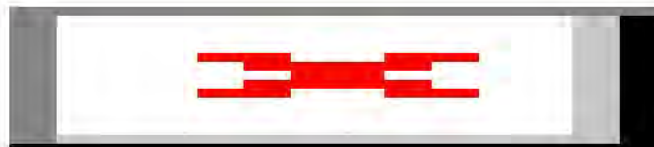
Here's Break the Cycle's teen dating violence guest post for your review. Please let us know if you'd like us to make any changes before you put this through clearance.

Thanks!
Alli

Sender:	Allison Hall-Jordan < AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com >
Recipient:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Sent Date:	2018/02/21 12:25:59
Delivered Date:	2018/02/21 12:26:19

From:	Tobacco Education Campaign (CDC) <tobaccomediacampaign@cdc.gov>
Subject:	CDC Launches 2017 Tips™ Campaign
Date:	2017/01/09 14:18:05
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

[Trouble Viewing?](#)



CDC's Tips from Former Smokers Montage

Dear Colleagues,

Today, CDC launched the 2017 *Tips From Former Smokers*™ (*Tips*™) campaign. This year, a variety of ads from previous years will be included in the media buy and feature diseases and conditions, such as throat and lung cancer, heart attack, stroke, periodontal disease, asthma, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

Following are materials to help promote the 2017 *Tips* campaign launch. We hope these resources will help your planning efforts and further support people in your own community who want to quit. Please take a moment to review the following information to learn more about the campaign and how you can help support it. Also, please share this e-mail with your tobacco control partners so that they can plan to use our materials, too.

Media Advisory

A media advisory has been issued and is included on CDC.gov, in the [newsroom](#) section.

Social/Digital Media Activities

OSH is planning social and digital media activities for the campaign launch. Please refer to the e-mail that was sent on Thursday, January 5th, 2017.

- To take advantage of all the activities OSH has planned on our social media profiles, you may wish to “like” and “follow” CDC Tobacco Free on Facebook and Twitter and subscribe to the *Tips From Former Smokers* playlist on YouTube. Doing so allows you to receive and share status updates and profile updates as they are

posted.

CDC Feature Article

A feature article, "*Tips*TM Campaign: Still a Best Buy for Public Health," will be available later this week on [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov). This article profiles a variety of *Tips* campaign participants who have appeared in ads over the years. This feature also includes helpful, free quitting resources. Please be sure to send this article to the members of your listservs.

The OSH [features page](#) also provides a convenient link to the CDC feature article as well as to quitting resources and social media tools.

Materials for Public Health Professionals, Health Care Providers, Faith Leaders, and Military-Serving Organizations

The campaign offers many free resources for [public health professionals](#) to help educate people about the dangers of smoking.

- Download *Tips* [print ads](#), including posters available in English and Spanish, and place them in community locations, including healthcare settings, to reach smokers.
- Use [matte articles](#) for placement in your organization's newsletters.

[Health Care Providers](#) can help their patients quit. *Tips* ads may inspire some of your smoking patients to think about quitting. For those patients who are ready to quit, you can be the motivation they need to become former smokers themselves. There are many resources available:

- A fact sheet about *Tips* and how [health care professionals](#) can get involved and support patients.
- A handout for patients giving "[Reasons to Quit Smoking](#)".
- A printable, pocket-size [intervention card](#) lists steps for conducting a brief tobacco intervention with your patients.

[Faith leaders](#) play an important role in fighting tobacco use. There are specific resources for your audiences that can help members of your community quit smoking for good.

- [Faith-Based Fact Sheets](#) provide information about tobacco use in your state.
- The faith-based webinar, '[It Takes Faith - Addressing Tobacco Use within the Faith Community](#)' features presentations from national faith leaders; those working in health ministry; and the CDC.

[Military members and veterans](#) need support to quit smoking. Now is the time to promote smoking cessation to military members. You can help with these and other resources.

- TRICARE is dedicated to helping users quit tobacco and live a healthier life with [Tobacco Cessation](#)
- A Department of Defense-sponsored website offers free help for those of you who are on active duty or who are retired at [Quit Tobacco-UCanQuit2.org](#)

Tips Web Site Resources

[CDC.gov/tips](https://www.cdc.gov/tips) has comprehensive resources for you to use and promote, including:

- Biographies and additional interviews with the ad participants
- Overviews of the health conditions featured in the campaign
- Spanish-language content
- "I'm Ready to Quit" practical tips for quitting smoking
- Web badges to post on your site to link readers to the compelling personal stories on the *Tips* Web site
- Printable *Tips* ads to hang in your workplace

Materials From the *Tips From Former Smokers* Download Center

Access free materials at plowsharegroup.com/cdctips. These include low-resolution TV ads, radio, online, print, and out-of-home ads; and public service announcements.

CDC's Media Campaign Resource Center (MCRC)

[CDC.gov/tobacco/MCRC](https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/MCRC) offers broadcast-quality *Tips* ads and other tobacco countermarketing ads for paid campaigns.

We hope these products and tools will assist your efforts to promote the 2017 *Tips From Former Smokers* campaign. If you have additional questions about the 2017 *Tips* campaign, please contact TobaccoMediaCampaign@cdc.gov.

Sincerely,
CDC's Office on Smoking and Health



[Twitter](#)



[Facebook](#)



[YouTube](#)



[CDC Website](#)

Sender:	Tobacco Education Campaign (CDC) < tobaccomediacampaign@cdc.gov >
Sent Date:	2017/01/09 14:17:36
Delivered Date:	2017/01/09 14:18:05

From:	Disckind, Barbara (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4AC5BAA671E64487B9002AF57DBA3654-DISCKIND, B>
To:	OS - OPHS-OWH </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c6c51e4d97f44ed2895a43463be02d79-OWH.OS>; OS - OPHS OWH Regions </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=826600eeced14b168ecd06d895fcd5c0-OWH Regions>
Subject:	FW: ** NCTSN January 2017 e-Bulletin **
Date:	2017/01/13 13:21:41
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Info from the National Child Traumatic Stress Network, funded by SAMHSA.

Articles on human trafficking, childhood trauma, veterans' PTSD, traumatic events/stress/resilience, shame/isolation....

For clients, caregivers, healthcare professionals, veterans, foster parents, etc.

Barbara B. Disckind

Senior Writer



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

1101 Wootton Parkway

Rockville, MD 20852

E-mail: barbara.disckind@hhs.gov

Direct: 240-453-6047

In office: M/W/Th

Telework: Tues/Frid

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

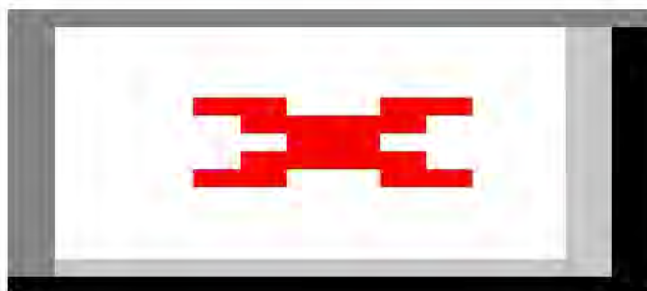
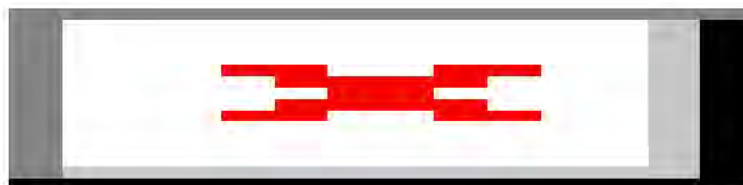
From: eCommunication [mailto:ECOMMUNICATION@LIST.NCTSN.ORG] **On Behalf Of** NCTSN ECOMMUNICATION

Sent: Thursday, January 12, 2017 5:11 PM

To: ECOMMUNICATION@LIST.NCTSN.ORG

Subject: ** NCTSN January 2017 e-Bulletin **





Testifying in Court about Trauma: Following the Ho

The last fact sheet in this series focuses on follow-through—for clinicians, clients, and their caregivers—after the process. Because testifying in court can be a difficult and stressful experience for clients and their caregivers, cli follow up with them, to support them and give them the opportunity to ask questions. Clinicians must keep in m testifying can be indirectly traumatizing and that they should seek out strategies to prevent secondary traumatic



Public Awareness

Human Trafficking Awareness Month (January 2018)

The populations most vulnerable to human trafficking include undocumented immigrants; runaway and homeless youth; victims of trauma and abuse; refugees and individuals fleeing conflict; and oppressed, marginalized, and impoverished individuals. In support of Human Trafficking Awareness Month, the NCTSN website has added new resources for health professionals, law enforcement personnel, health care professionals, and survivors on the signs of trafficking and services for human trafficking survivors.



NEW RPC Online Webinar Using the Video *ReMoved* with Resource Parents

If you have participated in an RPC workshop and want a deeper understanding of the real life implications of being removed from one's home and entering the foster care system or if you give workshops and would like a way to bring some concepts to life, we suggest watching this 30-minute webinar by Beth Barto, LMHC, CEO of LUK, Inc. Beth finds that the video *ReMoved* gives foster parents "a vivid picture of what it must be like" for children entering the foster care system. The video facilitates "a much more emotional connection to the material in the curriculum by exposing [viewers] to the experiences of foster children from a child's perspective."



Resources for Training Child Welfare Professionals on Trauma

If you have not visited the Special Topics course on the Learning Center for the Child Welfare Trauma Training Tool Kit, check it out at <http://learn.nctsn.org/course/view.php?id=25>. This resource includes all the Toolkit materials for download.

and a wealth of tools to assist in training and implementation:

- **Train-the-Trainer Videos (now available for all 14 Toolkit Modules)**—Experienced Toolkit trainers provide summaries for each Toolkit module.
- **Tips from Experienced Trainers**—Trainers provide training tips, activities, and additional resources for each Toolkit module.
- **Trauma Tips Newsletters**—One-page newsletters for each Essential Element of a Trauma-Informed System can be used to introduce professionals to the Essential Elements and/or to promote sustainability of trauma-informed practices after training.
- **Implementation Resources**—You will find resources for pre-training planning, screening and assessment, implementation models and approaches, and sustainability.
- **Webinars**—
 - The Revised Child Welfare Trauma Training Toolkit: What's New in Version 2?
 - Going the Distance: Implementing the Trauma Training Toolkit in Three Organizations (Continued)
- **Experienced Trainer Application**—If you have extensive experience training on the Toolkit, you can become an Experienced Toolkit Trainer.
- **Experienced Trainer Directory**—Use the map identifying Experienced Toolkit Trainers around the country to contact an Experienced Trainer in your vicinity.
- **Coming Soon**—The Child Welfare Trauma Training Toolkit Planning Tool
 - Trainers and child welfare administrators can use this training preparation resource to support implementation and promote sustainability of trauma-informed practices.

For more information, please contact Isaiah Pickens at IPickens@mednet.ucla.edu or Alison Hendricks at ahendricksconsulting@gmail.com



New ARC Framework Website!

This new website is designed to provide you—the family, practitioner, provider agency, and community member—with resources to better understand the Attachment, Regulation, and Competency (ARC) framework, along with help about traumatic stress and adversity and resilience and health. The site is divided into categories to support you; however, parents may find useful information on the provider page and agencies may find useful information on the adolescent page.



C. Brockman, J. Snyder, A. Gewirtz, S. Gird, J. Quattlebaum, N. Schmidt, D. DeGarmo, and others have co-authored [Relationship of Service Members' Deployment Trauma, PTSD symptoms, and Experiential Avoidance to Postdeployment Reengagement](#) in the *Journal of Family Psychology*, (Volume 30, Issue 1). Authors examined the association between service members' trauma exposure, PTSD symptoms, and experiential avoidance and observed levels of positive engagement, social withdrawal, reactivity-coercion, and distress avoidance during postdeployment family interactions. One hundred and eighty-four service members with partners and at least one child between 4 and 13 years of age who were deployed to the Middle East participated in the study. Trained observers assessed service members' positive engagement, social withdrawal, reactivity-coercion, and distress avoidance, as well as spouse and child negative affect and behavior. Service members' experiential avoidance was reliably associated with less observed positive engagement and more social withdrawal and distress avoidance after controlling for spouse and child negative affect and behavior during ongoing interaction. Service members' experiential avoidance also diminished significant associations between service members' PTSD symptoms and their observed behavior. Authors discuss the results in terms of how service members' psychological acceptance promotes family resilience and adaption to the multiple contextual challenges and role transitions associated with military deployment. In addition, authors describe the implications for parenting and marital interventions. [doi: 10.1037/fam0000152]



E. Deblinger, E. Pollio, and S. Dorsey are authors of [Applying Trauma-Focused Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy in Group Format](#) published in *Child Maltreatment* (Volume 21, Issue 1). TF-CBT, a well-established, evidence-based treatment for children who have experienced trauma, has been increasingly utilized in a group format. Group therapy formats are appealing because they can be highly effective and have the potential to reach larger numbers of clients. Moreover, TF-CBT group delivery is particularly valuable in reducing the feelings of shame, isolation, and stigma experienced by youth and their caregivers in the aftermath of traumatic experiences. Authors review the group TF-CBT research, discuss the therapeutic benefits of group therapy groups, and provide clinical and logistical guidance for implementing TF-CBT in a group format, including a group by-session protocol. Authors also discuss future directions for research and clinical work in this area. [doi:10.1177/1077559515620668]



[fb](#)



[tw](#)



[in](#)



This project was funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The views, policies, and opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of SAMHSA or HHS.

Sender:	Disckind, Barbara (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=4AC5BAA671E64487B9002AF57DBA3654-DISCKIND, B>
Recipient:	OS - OPHS-OWH </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c6c51e4d97f44ed2895a43463be02d79-OWH.OS>; OS - OPHS OWH Regions </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=826600ecccd14b168ecd06d895fcd5c0-OWH Regions>
Sent Date:	2017/01/13 13:21:38
Delivered Date:	2017/01/13 13:21:41

From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
To:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: Sexual Assault content for media request
Date:	2018/02/16 15:39:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

I totally agree with Brooke. I met with the VAW SMEs in OWH this week team at OWH and we talked about including info on consent and consent as an ongoing process in our Sexual Assault Awareness Month messaging!

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2018 11:01 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Sexual Assault content for media request

I'll put it in ;) ;)

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2018 11:00 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Sexual Assault content for media request

Yes.

Also, I was too panicked to create/write/copy any additional or new information or questions into what you sent me. But it would be amazing if you can get in there some of the newer content we've written about consent. We talk a TON more about consent in that new content and I think it's a really important topic to educate on.

What does "consent" mean?

Consent is a clear "yes" to sexual activity. Not saying "no" does not mean you have given consent. Sexual contact without consent is sexual assault or rape.

Your consent means:

- You know and understand what is going on (you are not unconscious, blacked out, asleep, underage, or have an intellectual disability).
- You know what you want to do.
- You are able to say what you want to do or don't want to do.
- You are aware that you are giving consent (and are not impaired by alcohol or drugs).

Sometimes you *cannot* give legal consent to sexual activity or contact — for example, if you are:

- • Threatened, forced, coerced, or manipulated into agreeing
- • Not physically able to (you are drunk, high, drugged, passed out, or asleep)
- • Not mentally able to (due to illness or disability)
- • Under the age of legal consent, which varies [by state\(link is external\)](#)

Remember:

- • **Consent is an ongoing process**, not a one-time question. If you consent to sexual activity, you can change your mind and choose to stop at any time, even after sexual activity has started.
- • **Past consent does not mean future consent.** Giving consent in the *past* to sexual activity does not mean your past consent applies *now* or in the *future*.
- • **Saying “yes” to a sexual activity is not consent for all types of sexual activity.** If you consent to sexual activity, it is only for types of sexual activities that you are comfortable with at that time with that partner. For example, giving consent for kissing does not mean you are giving consent for someone to remove your clothes.

What is NOT considered consent in sexual activity?

- • **Silence.** Just because someone does not say “no” doesn’t mean she is saying “yes.”
- • **Having consented before.** Just because someone said “yes” in the past does not mean she is saying “yes” now. Consent must be part of every sexual activity, every time.
- • **Being in a relationship.** Being married, dating, or having sexual contact with someone before does not mean that there is consent now.
- • **Being drunk or high.** Read more about [alcohol, drugs, and sexual assault](#).
- • **Not fighting back.** Not putting up a physical fight does not mean that there is consent.
- • **Sexy clothing, dancing, or flirting.** What a woman or girl wears or how she behaves does not show consent for sexual activity. Only a verbal “yes” means “yes” to sexual activity.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2018 10:57 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Sexual Assault content for media request

Thank you.

I’s also like to give OWH some credit and link to the source(s).

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/relationships-and-safety> and
<https://www.womenshealth.gov/relationships-and-safety/sexual-assault-and-rape>
and the facts sheet, <https://www.womenshealth.gov/files/documents/fact-sheet-relationships-safety-violence.pdf>?

J

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2018 10:39 AM
To: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Sexual Assault content for media request

This is the corrected information as we discussed. I did not change anything about the funding opp since that's Shavon's deal and should be correct/is not consumer health information.

Tell us why the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office on Women's Health's (OWH) is involved in sexual assault prevention.

Every woman has the right to live her life safely and free of violence. Yet one in four women in the United States experiences violence from an intimate partner. Intimate partner violence includes domestic abuse, sexual assault, verbal and emotional abuse, coercion, and stalking. Violence and abuse can cause physical and emotional problems that last long after the abuse. Sexual assault can happen to anyone of any age, race or ethnicity, religion, ability, appearance, sexual orientation, or gender identity. However, women have higher rates of sexual assault than men. In the United States, one in three women has experienced some type of sexual violence.¹

- **Women.** More than 23 million women in the United States have been raped. More than one in five African-American and white women and one in eight Hispanic women have been raped.
- **Young women.** Most women who have been raped were younger than 25 when the rape happened. Almost half of female rape victims were under 18.
- **Men.** Almost 2 million men in the United States have been raped. Almost 6% of men have experienced sexual coercion, and almost 11% of men have experienced unwanted sexual contact.
- **Lesbians, gays, and bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people.** Bisexual women have higher rates of sexual assault than lesbians and heterosexual women. Nearly half of all bisexual women have been raped. Lesbians and bisexual women also have higher rates of sexual violence by a partner than heterosexual women. More than half of transgender people have been sexually assaulted.

What is a specific program that the Office on Women's Health implements to address and prevent sexual assault?

In July 2016, the HHS OWH awarded nine cooperative agreements totaling approximately \$2 million to organizations that support colleges and universities in their efforts to prevent sexual assault on their campuses. The 3-year College Sexual Assault Policy and Prevention Initiative provides funding to increase awareness of sexual assault on college campuses and implement successful prevention policies. Those awarded collaborate with and provide technical assistance to organizations in position to influence policy at post-secondary schools (colleges, universities, technical schools, community college, and trade schools) across the US and territories.

What are some ways to lower the risk of sexual assault?

If you are assaulted, or if you find yourself in a situation that feels unsafe, it is not your fault. Sexual assault is never the victim's fault, no matter what she was wearing, drinking, or doing at the time of the assault. You can't prevent sexual assault, but you can take steps to be safer around others:^{5,6}

- **Go to parties or gatherings with friends.** Arrive together, check in with each other, and leave together. Talk about your plans for the evening so that everyone knows what to expect.
- **Meet first dates or new people in a public place.**
- **Listen to your instincts or "gut feelings."** Many women who are sexually assaulted know the abuser. If you find yourself alone with someone you don't trust, leave. Don't worry about hurting someone's feelings or being disliked. If you feel uncomfortable in any situation for any reason, leave. If the person is preventing you from leaving, try to get someone else's attention who can help you get to safety. You are the only person who gets to say whether you feel safe.

- **Look out for your friends, and ask them to look out for you.** You can play a powerful role in preventing sexual assault of other people. If a friend seems out of it, seems much too drunk for the amount of alcohol she drank, is acting out of character, or seems too drunk to stay safe in general, get her to a safe place. Ask your friends to do the same for you. Learn more about how you can [help prevent sexual assault as a bystander](#).
- **Have a code word with your family and friends** that means “Come get me; I need help” or “Call me with a fake emergency.” Call or text them and use the code word to let them know you need help.
- **Download an app on your phone.** Search in your phone’s app store for free women’s safety apps you can download and use if you feel unsafe or are threatened. Some apps share your location with your friends or the police if you need help. You can also set up an app to send you texts throughout the night to make sure you’re safe. If you don’t respond, the app will notify police.
- **Be aware of how much you drink.** Research shows that about half of sexual assault victims had been drinking when the attack happened.⁷ Drinking alcohol does not make the attack your fault, but alcohol — and drugs — can make it more likely that you will be drunk or high later on. If you are drunk or high, you cannot consent to sexual activity or you may not understand what is happening.
- **Keep control of your own drink,** because someone could add alcohol or [date rape drugs](#) to it.
- **Get help or leave right away** if you feel drunk and haven’t drunk any alcohol or if the effects of alcohol feel stronger than usual. This can happen if someone put a date rape drug or any kind of drug into your drink. Many drugs have no smell or taste and can cause you to pass out and not remember what happened.
- **Be aware of your surroundings.** If you’re walking alone, don’t wear headphones so you can hear what’s happening around you. Also, as much as you can, stay in busy, well-lit areas, especially at night.
- **Have a plan to get home.** If you plan to use a ride share service from an app, make sure your phone is charged or bring a charger. It can help to have a credit card or cash on hand if you need to leave quickly.

In addition, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provide information on how to prevent sexual assault from a public health prevention standpoint. It is important to have efforts aimed at stopping sexual violence before it begins.

Please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/sexualviolence/index.html>

What is public health’s role in sexual assault prevention?

Sexual assault can have long-term health effects. People who have experienced sexual violence or stalking by any person or physical violence by an intimate partner are more likely to report:¹

- Headaches
- Long-term pain
- Trouble sleeping
- Poor physical and mental health
- Asthma
- Irritable bowel syndrome

Other health effects can include:⁹

- • Severe [anxiety](#), stress, or fear
- • Abuse of alcohol or drugs
- • [Depression](#)
- • Eating disorders
- • [Sexually transmitted infections](#)
- • [Pregnancy](#)
- • Self-injury or [suicide](#)

What should someone who has been sexually assaulted know?

If you are in danger or need medical care, call 911. If you can, get away from the person who assaulted you and get to a safe place as fast as you can. You can call the [National Sexual Assault Hotline](#) at 800-656-HOPE (4673) to connect with a sexual assault service provider in your area who can direct you to local resources.

After a sexual assault, you may feel fear, shame, guilt, or shock. All of these feelings are normal, and each survivor can feel a different range of emotions at different times in the recovery process. Sexual assault is never your fault. It may be frightening to think about talking about the assault, but it is important to get help. You can call these organizations any time, day or night. The calls are free and confidential.

- • [National Sexual Assault Hotline](#), 800-656-HOPE (4673)
- • [National Domestic Violence Hotline](#), 800-799-SAFE (7233)

Each state and territory has [organizations and hotlines](#) to help people who have been sexually assaulted. These numbers can show up on your phone bill or history, so try to use a public phone or a friend's cellphone.

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2018 9:58 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Sexual Assault content for media request
Importance: High

+Valerie, as you may have something to add re: SA since you lead the observance

GM Brooke –

Adrienne Smith received a media request about sexual assault for the observance month edition of The Nation's Health (the APHA newspaper). The Q&A's are below. Shavon reviewed them too. I plan to tighten the below up before I send to Jenn this morning—we have a tight turn around. I believe she got most of this information from our website when answering the questions.

I checked out our SA fact sheet, but it's from 2015. Is there anything else you would like me to reference in regard to wh.gov.

Thanks,

Jill Lauren Wasserman, MPH
Health Education Specialist



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov
Main: 202.690.7650 | Direct: 202.260.9275
Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)
Telework Days: Wednesdays & Fridays

Tell us why the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office on Women's Health's (OWH) is involved in sexual assault prevention.

Sexual assault can happen to anyone of any age, race or ethnicity, religion, ability, appearance, sexual orientation, or gender identity. However, women have higher rates of sexual assault than men.

- **Women.** More than 23 million women in the United States have been raped. More than one in five African-American and white women and one in eight Hispanic women have been raped.
- **Young women.** Most women who have been raped were younger than 25 when the rape happened. Almost half of female rape victims were under 18.
- **Men.** Almost 2 million men in the United States have been raped. Almost 6% of men have experienced sexual coercion, and almost 11% of men have experienced unwanted sexual contact.
- **Lesbians, gays, and bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people.** Bisexual women have higher rates of sexual assault than lesbians and heterosexual women. Nearly half of all bisexual women have been raped. Lesbians and bisexual women also have higher rates of sexual violence by a partner than heterosexual women. More than half of transgender people have been sexually assaulted.

What is a specific program that the Office on Women's Health implements to address and prevent sexual assault?

In July 2016, the HHS OWH awarded nine cooperative agreements totaling approximately \$2 million to organizations that support colleges and universities in their efforts to prevent sexual assault on their campuses. The 3-year College Sexual Assault Policy and Prevention Initiative provides funding to increase awareness of sexual assault on college campuses and implement successful prevention policies. Those awarded collaborate with and provide technical assistance to organizations in position to influence policy at post-secondary schools (colleges, universities, technical schools, community college, and trade schools) across the US and territories.

What are some ways to lower the risk of sexual assault?

You cannot always prevent sexual assault. If you are assaulted, or if you find yourself in a situation that feels unsafe, it is not your fault. But you can take steps to help stay safe in general:

- **Go to parties or gatherings with friends.** Arrive together, check in with each other, and leave together. Talk about your plans for the evening so that everyone knows what to expect.
- **Look out for your friends, and ask them to look out for you.** If a friend seems out of it, is way too drunk for the amount of alcohol she's had, is acting out of character, or seems too drunk to stay safe in general, get her to a safe place. Ask your friends to do the same for you.
- **Have a code word with your family and friends** that means "Come get me, I need help" or "Call me with a fake emergency." Call or text them and use the code word to let them know you need help.
- **Download an app on your phone.** You can download free apps you can use if you feel unsafe or are threatened. Some apps share your location with your friends or the police if you need help. You can also set up an app to send you texts throughout the night to make sure you're safe. If you don't respond, the app will notify police.
- **Avoid drinks in punchbowls or other containers that can be easily "spiked"** (when alcohol is added to a drink without permission). If you think that you or one of your friends has been drugged, call the police. Tell them what happened so that you can be tested for the right drugs.
- **Know your limits when using alcohol or drugs.** Don't let anyone pressure you into drinking or doing more than you want to.
- **Trust your instincts.** If you find yourself alone with someone you don't know or trust, leave. If you feel uncomfortable in any situation for any reason, leave. You are the only person who gets to say whether you feel safe.
- **Be aware of your surroundings.** Especially if walking alone, avoid talking on your phone or listening to music with headphones. Stay in busy, well-lit areas, especially at night.

In addition, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provide information on how to prevent sexual assault from a public health prevention standpoint. It is important to have efforts aimed at stopping sexual violence before it begins.

Please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/sexualviolence/index.html>

What is public health's role in sexual assault prevention?

Sexual assault can have long-term health effects. People who have been sexually assaulted are more likely to report:

- Frequent headaches
- Long-term pain
- Trouble sleeping
- Poor physical and mental health

Other health effects can include:

- Severe anxiety, stress, or fear
- Abuse of alcohol or drugs
- Depression
- Eating disorders
- Sexually transmitted infections (STIs)
- Pregnancy
- Self-injury or suicide

What should someone who has been sexually assaulted know?

After a sexual assault, you may feel fear, shame, guilt, or shock. These feelings are normal. But sexual assault is never your fault. It may be frightening to think about talking about the assault, but it is important to get help. You can call these organizations any time, day or night. The calls are free and confidential:

- **National Sexual Assault Hotline(link is external), 800-656-HOPE (4673).** You can also chat with a trained hotline worker on the [National Sexual Assault Online Hotline\(link is external\)](#).
- **National Domestic Violence Hotline(link is external), 800-799-SAFE (7233) or 800-787-3224 (TTY)**

Each state and territory has [organizations and hotlines](#) to help people who have been sexually assaulted.

Sender:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
Recipient:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=20ca3c5d293c4afd9fb842d0d2f8c823-Wasserman,>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Sent Date:	2018/02/16 15:39:25
Delivered Date:	2018/02/16 15:39:00

To:	Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject:	RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures
Date:	2017/09/25 13:43:12
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Katrina,

From: Katrina Velasquez [mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:58 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

My apologies for the delay!

The group was formed based on a survey of the eating disorders field on the best experts in the area of health professional training on early detection, intervention, and referral of eating disorders. We spoke with eating disorders experts in research, the medical field, psychiatric providers, and programmatic organizations who work directly with training health professionals.

The field is quite interesting as while it is a smaller field and everyone knows each other, everyone has their own niche. For example the August 8th SAMHSA meeting with the eating disorders researchers- those researchers are the best of the best in the niche of how to provide treatment in Centers for Excellence and the academic setting (this is about 5% of the treatment provided across the nation due to the limited # of beds in these settings).

Regarding the great list of already confirmed HHS staff, thank you so much! Particularly we all have known Mark Chavez and Sabrina Matoff-Stepp for years given their in-depth work with the eating disorders community, so glad to see they will be attending. Also the VA researchers have been asking if there may be a call-in so that they can listen in. Do you think this is possible?

Best,
Katrina

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 3:25 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

We are looking forward to meeting with you all on October 4 as well! Thanks so much for sharing the list of attendees. This group appears to be different from the Federal Advisory Committee members who met at SAMHSA in August. Can you tell me more about how this group was formed? I'm really just curious and want to be prepared in case our federal partners ask.

Here are the answers to your questions:

The room set up will be conference room style. In terms of the structure, we see this as an opportunity for the Eating Disorders Experts to inform the federal staff about issues around eating disorders and for the federal staff to ask questions to this group to learn what is being done and what is still needed for education and training, prevention, screening, diagnosis, and treatment of Eating Disorders.

We have invited 15 federal employees and have eight confirmed so far, but I expect a few more will RSVP in the next week. Below are the names, titles and agencies of those who have accepted. Several are from the Office on Women's Health (OWH) but we also have representation from NIH, HRSA, SAMHSA and AHRQ.

Alan Simon, Medical Officer, OWH

Valerie Borden—Senior Advisor for Partnerships, OWH

Beth Collins Sharp—Director, Division of Program Innovation, OWH

Brittany Perrotte—Public Health Analyst, Division of Policy and Program Management, OWH

Mark Chavez--- Program Chief, Eating Disorders Research Program, NIMH

Sabrina Matoff-Stepp—Director, Office on Women's Health, HRSA

Ingrid Donato—Branch Chief, Mental Health Promotion Branch, Center for Mental Health Services, SAMHSA

Christine Chang---Supervisory Medical Officer, AHRQ

I hope I have answered all your questions for now. I'll be back in touch soon with more meeting details.

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]

Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 1:11 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

We are all really looking forward to next week's session! Couple of quick question:

- • What will the set-up be for the session- i.e. conference room style
- • Is there any particular structure for the conversation that I should be keeping in mind?
- • We will be bringing in some example items like doctor's palm references, etc. Do you know how many people from the agency will be in attendance?

- Also any inclination on who will be attending so that we can be sure to hit on things that may be particularly interesting to them?

Below are the 10 names, credentials and affiliations of next week's session.

1. • **Dr. S. Bryn Austin, ScD**, Professor, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School; Director of Fellowship Research Training, Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine, Boston Children's Hospital
2. • **Dr. Joel Jahaus, MD, FAED, CEDS**, Chief Medical Officer, Monte Nido and Affiliates
3. • **Johanna S. Kandel-Zaretsky** ("Johanna Kandel"), Chief Executive Officer, Alliance for Eating Disorders Awareness
4. • **Dr. K. Molly McShane, MD, MPH**, Medical Director and Chief of Psychiatry, Oliver-Pyatt Centers
5. • **Claire M. Mysko, MA**, Chief Executive Officer, National Eating Disorders Association
6. • **Dr. Jillian Lampert, PhD, MPH, RD, LD, FAED.**, Chief Strategy Officer, The Emily Program; Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Food Science and Nutrition, University of Minnesota
7. • **Katrina Velasquez, Esq., MA**, Policy Director, Eating Disorders Coalition
8. • **Kitty Westin, MA, LP**, Mother of Anna Westin; Board Member, The Emily Program Foundation
9. • **Dr. Margherita Mascolo, MD**, Medical Director, ACUTE Center for Eating Disorders; Internal Medicine Hospitalist, Denver Health Medical Center; Director of Chest Pain Observation Service, Denver Health Medical Center
10. • **Dr. Therese Waterhous, PhD/RDN, CEDRD**, Nutrition Specialist and President, Willamette Nutrition Source, LLC

Best,

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.

Policy Director

[Eating Disorders Coalition](#)

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From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2017 9:45 AM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

It would be good to have the names by Sept 20. Is that doable?

We are happy to include the VA researchers in the meeting. However, we want to listening session to give an opportunity for the non-feds to speak to us. Also we are forming an HHS workgroup on eating disorders and would be fine with the VA researchers joining us. Can you send me their contact information? For the Oct 4 listening session, they can get into our building since they have federal IDs. Once I have their email addresses I will send them the Outlook meeting invite.

Thanks. Valerie

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 2:51 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

That is wonderful to hear! I am compiling the names- when will you need those by?

Also two VA researchers who are working on evidence-based eating disorders screenings in the primary care setting for the VA Health System, have shown interest in sharing their insight for the civilian side. (Dr. Gibbs & Dr. Garovoy) Is there any different for attendees if they are government employees?

Thank you so much for all of your help!

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From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2017 4:52 PM

To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

We are moving forward on our end inviting Feds, finding a room, etc.

Can you send me a list of the names, titles, organizations for each of the attendees? I'll need them in order to get you all through security in our building and for the other federal guests to see.

Thanks!
Valerie

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2017 8:04 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,
Thanks for the clarification on the format, and that sounds great on all counts. Also to answer your question, the group is not a Federal Advisory Committee.
Best,
Katrina

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2017 4:49 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

Yes, it was nice to have a long weekend to catch up on things at home and also fit in some fun!

We are thinking of a listening session where we (HHS folks) would ask the experts questions to learn more about the challenges with education and training, prevention and treatment of Eating Disorders. The 2-4 time slot works for us at this time. I still need to confirm with a few folks here. Once it is settled on this end, I can send a formal invitation letter from the Office on Women's Health Director, Nicole Greene.

How does this sound?

I do have one question: is this group a Federal Advisory Committee?

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2017 1:20 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

It is great to hear from you! I hope you had a wonderful Labor Day weekend! I'm very glad to hear that you are trying to organize something for October 4th - are you thinking it would be a roundtable discussion with HHS folks, public listening session, or perhaps another format? Our preference of course would be to have a discussion 😊.

We'd have a total of 9 experts present (plus myself, so 10 total) on the 4th. We can definitely limit down or expand as you may see fit. For timing, a 2-4PM slot would be perfect as they all have a training at 6PM near Union Station so it would give them some down time prior to, but also allow them to still fly-in on the 4th as originally planned.

Thanks again,
Katrina

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2017 9:32 AM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

We are trying to organize something for Oct 4. How many experts will be present and approximately what time are they available? For example, 2-4? We can try to get a conference room in the Hubert H Humphrey Building at 200 Independence Ave, SW which is just down the street from the Hill.

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2017 4:28 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

Yes they will be in town for a Hill Day on October 4th (starting at 5PM) and all day on the 5th. They most likely would be able to come in early and participate in activities on the 4th during the day or the 6th. Otherwise, I'm sure we could arrange for them to come in other times throughout the Fall.

Best,
Katrina

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2017 2:13 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

I will check with the editorial team and get back to you about links to more detailed information.

For now, can you tell me more about the purpose of the experts meeting in DC in October? You stated below that it was a tentative Hill day. And is October 6th their only available day?

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2017 12:39 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

Thank you for getting back to me and providing this detailed summary. We appreciate you and your editorial team taking into consideration the community's recommendations.

Couple of things:

- Thank you for considering including more diversity in the photos to reduce stigma, providing a detailed overview of eating disorders, considering other eating disorders in the future, and potentially working with NEDA on the helpline. Particularly I know that the CEO, Claire Mysko, is very interested in providing any trainings for hotline staff, so we'd welcome proceeding any way forward you see fit.
- Also thank you for the timeline regarding your editorial team contract. We understand how this works and welcome coordinating the eating disorders community input (i.e. phone, etc.) when they begin on specific edits.
- Question: Regarding item three including different levels of treatment for eating disorders—that makes sense to link to more detailed information for all the disease and conditions, would you possibly be able to elaborate where these links are just so that I can report back to the community on this item?

Finally, it is great to hear that your sister agencies and offices are working on coordinating the remaining portion of 21st Century Cures. We are at your disposal 😊. Do note that many of the experts will be in DC at the beginning of October and would all be available October 6th.

Look forward to hearing from you and I hope you have a wonderful rest of August and great Eclipse day!

Best,

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.

Policy Director

[Eating Disorders Coalition](#)

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From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 4:34 PM

To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>

Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

Thank you for collecting and sending me this thorough review of and feedback on our eating disorders content. I've spoken with the editorial team and wanted to share with you a summary of what we can provide.

B1. Stigma-Reduction Techniques:

We can include more diversity in our photos.

2. Provide an overview of eating disorders:

We can provide a more detailed overview of Eating Disorders.

3. Include the different levels of treatment for eating disorders:

Our content policy is to provide some treatment information but to link to more detailed information for all the disease and conditions we cover on the website.

4. Include other eating disorders outside of the "Big Three":

We will consider adding additional content in the longer term.

5. Women's Helpline:

Yes we'd be very interested in having NEDA train our helpline staff.

6. Include a Screening Tool:

According to our editorial policy our website is a starting point for people. We refer users to sites like NIMH, etc., for access to screening tools, etc.

Regarding the comments and edits to the specific fact sheets, our editorial team is considering these. In a few weeks we will have a new contract in place to help pus implement these changes.

We are working with our sister agencies and offices within HHS to determine roles and responsibilities for addressing the 21st Century Cures Act. I will be back in touch soon.

Thanks again,

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor for Public and Private Partnerships
Division of Strategic Communications



OWH_logo_150

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Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Friday, August 04, 2017 4:07 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: 'Austin, Bryn'; 'Claire Mysko'; 'Joslyn Smith'; 'Jillian Lampert'; 'Johanna Kandel'; 'Jillian Lampert'; MPlotkin@eatingrecoverycenter.com
Subject: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Good Afternoon Valerie,

Thank you again for the opportunity for the eating disorders to provide their feedback on the Office of Women's Health's website as it relates to eating disorders (both the Factsheets and the actual website). Over the past month, we have worked with researchers, treatment providers, and advocacy organizations throughout the nation to provide you the most thorough feedback in the field including experts from Harvard University, National Eating Disorders Association, Binge Eating Disorders Association, Alliance for Eating Disorders, and eating disorders specific treatment centers from around the nation.

We'd welcome the opportunity to convene an eating disorders roundtable with the Office of Women's Health, HRSA, and SAMHSA and any other agency actors you see fit to discuss early identification for eating disorders with the public and health professionals per 21st Century Cures provisions. We have noted that HHS has not yet started implementing trainings for our health professionals, so do hope that we can help begin this process. As context, last we helped to pull together experts from around the nation to discuss mental health parity and early identification as it relates to eating disorders including members from the White House Domestic Council, CMS, SAMHSA, DOL, CCIOO, HRSA, and NIMH. These experts came in through their own organizational funding, and would be happy to make it happen again to effectuate the promises in Cures.

Please let me know if we may be able to work together and set-up this discussion to continue to advance the Cures provisions and increase early identification for eating disorders!

Best,

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From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2017 2:10 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Thanks and have a great weekend!

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2017 9:30 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Hi Valerie,

Sure thing. Nancy Kelly is who has been arranging it: Nancy.Kelly@samhsa.hhs.gov. We also work closely with Brian Altman in SAMHSA as well: brian.altman@samhsa.hhs.gov on a variety of things.

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.

Policy Director
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www.eatingdisorderscoalition.org

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2017 10:25 AM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Hi Katrina,

Can you give me the names of the people at SAMHSA you are working with? I would like to reach out to them about their eating disorder activities and am not sure whom to contact.

Many thanks!

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2017 12:29 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Good Morning Valerie,

Thank you for providing this information. I am going to send this over to our Research Advisory Board to see if we might suggest adding anything to it 😊. Will get back to you in a couple of weeks!

Regarding the potential of convening a panel of experts to discuss opportunities for more information, awareness, education and training around eating disorders- that is wonderful to hear and actually sounds like steps to activating some of the eating disorders provisions in 21st Century Cures.

We'd welcome the opportunity to help you bring in experts, as we did for the White House Eating Disorder Roundtable last September. For your information, experts from around the nation (from Harvard to Stanford to everything in between) will be in DC around the following dates which may make it easier to coordinate if you will be proceeding:

- July 24th (Meeting with the FDA)- so they could stay for a July 25th meeting- *Note this may be a little difficult though given its only a few weeks away*
- Aug 8 (Meeting with SAMHSA)- they could meet on the 7th
- Oct. 3-5th (Tentative Hill Day which will be finalized timing next week)- they could tag on a day that week

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.

Policy Director

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From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 4:20 PM

To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>

Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Hi Katrina,

I'm getting back to you from the Office on Women's Health on your inquiry to Laura about incorporating some evidence-based updates about eating disorders on the OWH website. Earlier this month we updated our three fact sheets on eating disorders with the latest evidence-based information. Each fact sheet was reviewed by federal and non-federal experts. The names and affiliations of the reviewers are listed at the end of each fact sheet. Please let me know if you feel we missed anything.

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/anorexia-nervosa#11>

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/binge-eating-disorder>

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/bulimia-nervosa>

Also, we may be convening a panel of experts to discuss opportunities and need for information, awareness, education, and training about eating disorders. I will keep you posted on whether this happens and make sure your organization is included in the invitation.

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor for Public and Private Partnerships

Division of Strategic Communications



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

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OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 12:29 PM
To: 'Laura Koehler'
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); 'Allison Hall-Jordan'
Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Hi Laura,

Thank you so much for following-up with us! That is wonderful to hear the reach of the Women's Health Week! I've spoken with our social media team and our results from the week were as follows:

Facebook

- • Reach – 37,642
- • 242 reactions
- • 2 comments
- • 68 shares

Twitter

- • Impressions – 6,119
- • 160 engagements
- • 32 likes
- • 33 retweets

Also I'm wondering if you might be able to direct me to the best person within OWH to discuss potentially incorporating some evidence-based updates about eating disorders on the OWH website?

Best,

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.
Policy Director
[Eating Disorders Coalition](#)
440 First Street, NW STE 430
Washington, DC 20001
P: 202-909-0774
www.eatingdisorderscoalition.org

From: Laura Koehler [<mailto:lkoehler@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2017 3:13 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>

Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>; jill.wasserman1@hhs.gov; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagersharp.com>

Subject: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Dear Katrina,

Thank you for making the 18th annual National Women's Health Week a success. The numbers are still rolling in, but with the help of partners like you, we are seeing impactful results. More than 72,000 people watched our [Recipe for Health video](#), more than 17,000 women took our [quiz to learn their health style](#), and we reached more than 55 million people through social media.

We appreciate you joining the celebration and spreading the word through your social media channels and via the Huffington Post blog series. It's great to hear about our partners' successes, so if there are any other NWHW activities or metrics that you'd be able to share with us, please let us know.

We want to stay in touch. If there are any upcoming activities or events that your organization is planning for which an OWH spokesperson could be of value, please contact Valerie Borden. Her contact information is at the end of this email.

Thank you again for your support and all you do for women's health. It was a pleasure working with you, and we look forward to continuing our partnership again next year.

Sincerely,

The National Women's Health Week Team

and

Valerie Borden, MPA
Senior Advisor for Public and Private Partnerships
Division of Strategic Communications
Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov
Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-0270

Jill Lauren Wasserman, MPH
Health Education Specialist and NWHW Lead
Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov
Main: 202.690.7650 | Direct: 202.260.9275

Recipient:	Katrina Velasquez < kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org >
Sent Date:	2017/09/25 13:43:14
Delivered Date:	2017/09/25 13:43:12
Message Flags:	Unsent

From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
To:	Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject:	RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures
Date:	2017/09/28 09:52:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Katrina,

Please remind all the experts to bring a form of ID in order to get through the HHS Security.

Thanks!

Valerie

From: Katrina Velasquez [mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org]
Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2017 11:18 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Great thank you!

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2017 4:42 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

Yes, the experts can call into the meeting using the following:

(b)(6)

We are putting together a list of questions to ask the experts so will make sure these items below are included.

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2017 4:27 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

I hope all is well! Two quick things:

First- Two experts that I was hoping to attend (but couldn't travel) just let me know that they are available via phone. Is there any way I might be able to include them in? If not, it's ok and we do have a solid group.

Second- I have met with all of our experts attending, and wanted to share the key issue areas around eating disorders early detection, intervention, and referral for our health professionals that we are hoping to discuss next week:

- **Basics of Eating Disorders**
 - • EDs are a serious mental illness- prevalence, mortality rate
 - • Co-occurring medical and mental health conditions
 - • Connection between obesity and eating disorders- including non-detection of binge eating disorder
 - • Issues with non-detection by health professionals
- **How Health Professionals can Detect and Intervene**
 - • Why health professionals may miss detection and intervention (i.e. lack of training)
 - • Screening tools available and funded through federal government
 - • Medical warning signs health professionals can identify
- **Strategies we've seen work in the field and through research for health professionals early detection, intervention & referral**
 - • Issues with "Getting In"- Outreach to health professionals
 - • Trainings
 - • Which personnel most successful to train
 - • CEU
 - • Office Protocol
 - • Resources, Referrals, and Best Practices
 - • I.e. ACOs, lap coat cards, HITECH, etc.
- **How HHS could incorporate eating disorder early detection, intervention & referral for health professionals within the serious mental illness work and obesity work**

Best,

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From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 10:58 AM
To: 'Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)' <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

My apologies for the delay!

The group was formed based on a survey of the eating disorders field on the best experts in the area of health professional training on early detection, intervention, and referral of eating disorders. We spoke with eating disorders experts in research, the medical field, psychiatric providers, and programmatic organizations who work directly with training health professionals.

The field is quite interesting as while it is a smaller field and everyone knows each other, everyone has their own niche. For example the August 8th SAMHSA meeting with the eating disorders researchers- those researchers are the best of the best in the niche of how to provide treatment in Centers for Excellence and the academic setting (this is about 5% of the treatment provided across the nation due to the limited # of beds in these settings).

Regarding the great list of already confirmed HHS staff, thank you so much! Particularly we all have known Mark Chavez and Sabrina Matoff-Stepp for years given their in-depth work with the eating disorders community, so glad to see they will be attending. Also the VA researchers have been asking if there may be a call-in so that they can listen in. Do you think this is possible?

Best,
Katrina

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 3:25 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

We are looking forward to meeting with you all on October 4 as well! Thanks so much for sharing the list of attendees. This group appears to be different from the Federal Advisory Committee members who met at SAMHSA in August. Can you tell me more about how this group was formed? I'm really just curious and want to be prepared in case our federal partners ask.

Here are the answers to your questions:

The room set up will be conference room style. In terms of the structure, we see this as an opportunity for the Eating Disorders Experts to inform the federal staff about issues around eating disorders and for the federal staff to ask questions to this group to learn what is being done and what is still needed for education and training, prevention, screening, diagnosis, and treatment of Eating Disorders.

We have invited 15 federal employees and have eight confirmed so far, but I expect a few more will RSVP in the next week. Below are the names, titles and agencies of those who have accepted. Several are from the Office on Women's Health (OWH) but we also have representation from NIH, HRSA, SAMHSA and AHRQ.

Alan Simon, Medical Officer, OWH

Valerie Borden—Senior Advisor for Partnerships, OWH

Beth Collins Sharp—Director, Division of Program Innovation, OWH

Brittany Perrotte—Public Health Analyst, Division of Policy and Program Management, OWH

Mark Chavez--- Program Chief, Eating Disorders Research Program, NIMH

Sabrina Matoff-Stepp—Director, Office on Women's Health, HRSA

Ingrid Donato—Branch Chief, Mental Health Promotion Branch, Center for Mental Health Services, SAMHSA

Christine Chang---Supervisory Medical Officer, AHRQ

I hope I have answered all your questions for now. I'll be back in touch soon with more meeting details.

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]

Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 1:11 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

We are all really looking forward to next week's session! Couple of quick question:

- What will the set-up be for the session- i.e. conference room style
- Is there any particular structure for the conversation that I should be keeping in mind?
- We will be bringing in some example items like doctor's palm references, etc. Do you know how many people from the agency will be in attendance?
- Also any inclination on who will be attending so that we can be sure to hit on things that may be particularly interesting to them?

Below are the 10 names, credentials and affiliations of next week's session.

1. • **Dr. S. Bryn Austin, ScD**, Professor, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical

School; Director of Fellowship Research Training, Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine, Boston Children's Hospital

2. • **Dr. Joel Jahaus, MD, FAED, CEDS**, Chief Medical Officer, Monte Nido and Affiliates
3. • **Johanna S. Kandel-Zaretsky** ("Johanna Kandel"), Chief Executive Officer, Alliance for Eating Disorders Awareness
4. • **Dr. K. Molly McShane, MD, MPH**, Medical Director and Chief of Psychiatry, Oliver-Pyatt Centers
5. • **Claire M. Mysko, MA**, Chief Executive Officer, National Eating Disorders Association
6. • **Dr. Jillian Lampert, PhD, MPH, RD, LD, FAED.**, Chief Strategy Officer, The Emily Program; Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Food Science and Nutrition, University of Minnesota
7. • **Katrina Velasquez, Esq., MA**, Policy Director, Eating Disorders Coalition
8. • **Kitty Westin, MA, LP**, Mother of Anna Westin; Board Member, The Emily Program Foundation
9. • **Dr. Margherita Mascolo, MD**, Medical Director, ACUTE Center for Eating Disorders; Internal Medicine Hospitalist, Denver Health Medical Center; Director of Chest Pain Observation Service, Denver Health Medical Center
10. • **Dr. Therese Waterhous, PhD/RDN, CEDRD**, Nutrition Specialist and President, Willamette Nutrition Source, LLC

Best,

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.

Policy Director

[Eating Disorders Coalition](#)

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From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2017 9:45 AM

To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>

Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

It would be good to have the names by Sept 20. Is that doable?

We are happy to include the VA researchers in the meeting. However, we want to listening session to give an opportunity for the non-feds to speak to us. Also we are forming an HHS workgroup on eating disorders and would be fine with the VA researchers joining us. Can you send me their contact information? For the Oct 4 listening session, they can get into our building since they have federal IDs. Once I have their email addresses I will send them the Outlook meeting invite.

Thanks. Valerie

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 2:51 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

That is wonderful to hear! I am compiling the names- when will you need those by?

Also two VA researchers who are working on evidence-based eating disorders screenings in the primary care setting for the VA Health System, have shown interest in sharing their insight for the civilian side. (Dr. Gibbs & Dr. Garovoy) Is there any different for attendees if they are government employees?

Thank you so much for all of your help!

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From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2017 4:52 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

We are moving forward on our end inviting Feds, finding a room, etc.

Can you send me a list of the names, titles, organizations for each of the attendees? I'll need them in order to get you all through security in our building and for the other federal guests to see.

Thanks!
Valerie

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2017 8:04 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,
Thanks for the clarification on the format, and that sounds great on all counts. Also to answer your question, the group is not a Federal Advisory Committee.
Best,
Katrina

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2017 4:49 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

Yes, it was nice to have a long weekend to catch up on things at home and also fit in some fun!

We are thinking of a listening session where we (HHS folks) would ask the experts questions to learn more about the challenges with education and training, prevention and treatment of Eating Disorders. The 2-4 time slot works for us at this time. I still need to confirm with a few folks here. Once it is settled on this end, I can send a formal invitation letter from the Office on Women's Health Director, Nicole Greene.

How does this sound?

I do have one question: is this group a Federal Advisory Committee?

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2017 1:20 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

It is great to hear from you! I hope you had a wonderful Labor Day weekend! I'm very glad to hear that you are trying to organize something for October 4th - are you thinking it would be a roundtable discussion with HHS folks, public listening session, or perhaps another format? Our preference of course would be to have a discussion 😊.

We'd have a total of 9 experts present (plus myself, so 10 total) on the 4th. We can definitely limit down or expand as you may see fit. For timing, a 2-4PM slot would be perfect as they all have a training at 6PM near Union Station so it would give them some down time prior to, but also allow them to still fly-in on the 4th as originally planned.

Thanks again,
Katrina

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2017 9:32 AM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

We are trying to organize something for Oct 4. How many experts will be present and approximately what time are they available? For example, 2-4? We can try to get a conference room in the Hubert H Humphrey Building at 200 Independence Ave, SW which is just down the street from the Hill.

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2017 4:28 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

Yes they will be in town for a Hill Day on October 4th (starting at 5PM) and all day on the 5th. They most likely would be able to come in early and participate in activities on the 4th during the day or the 6th. Otherwise, I'm sure we could arrange for them to come in other times throughout the Fall.

Best,
Katrina

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2017 2:13 PM

To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

I will check with the editorial team and get back to you about links to more detailed information.

For now, can you tell me more about the purpose of the experts meeting in DC in October? You stated below that it was a tentative Hill day. And is October 6th their only available day?

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2017 12:39 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

Thank you for getting back to me and providing this detailed summary. We appreciate you and your editorial team taking into consideration the community's recommendations.

Couple of things:

- Thank you for considering including more diversity in the photos to reduce stigma, providing a detailed overview of eating disorders, considering other eating disorders in the future, and potentially working with NEDA on the helpline. Particularly I know that the CEO, Claire Mysko, is very interested in providing any trainings for hotline staff, so we'd welcome proceeding any way forward you see fit.
- Also thank you for the timeline regarding your editorial team contract. We understand how this works and welcome coordinating the eating disorders community input (i.e. phone, etc.) when they begin on specific edits.
- Question: Regarding item three including different levels of treatment for eating disorders—that makes sense to link to more detailed information for all the disease and conditions, would you possibly be able to elaborate where these links are just so that I can report back to the community on this item?

Finally, it is great to hear that your sister agencies and offices are working on coordinating the remaining portion of 21st Century Cures. We are at your disposal ☺. Do note that many of the experts will be in DC at the beginning of October and would all be available October 6th.

Look forward to hearing from you and I hope you have a wonderful rest of August and great Eclipse day!

Best,

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.

Policy Director
Eating Disorders Coalition
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www.eatingdisorderscoalition.org

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 4:34 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

Thank you for collecting and sending me this thorough review of and feedback on our eating disorders content. I've spoken with the editorial team and wanted to share with you a summary of what we can provide.

B1. Stigma-Reduction Techniques:

We can include more diversity in our photos.

2. Provide an overview of eating disorders:

We can provide a more detailed overview of Eating Disorders.

3. Include the different levels of treatment for eating disorders:

Our content policy is to provide some treatment information but to link to more detailed information for all the disease and conditions we cover on the website.

4. Include other eating disorders outside of the "Big Three":

We will consider adding additional content in the longer term.

5. Women's Helpline:

Yes we'd be very interested in having NEDA train our helpline staff.

6. Include a Screening Tool:

According to our editorial policy our website is a starting point for people. We refer users to sites like NIMH, etc., for access to screening tools, etc.

Regarding the comments and edits to the specific fact sheets, our editorial team is considering these. In a few weeks we will have a new contract in place to help us implement these changes.

We are working with our sister agencies and offices within HHS to determine roles and responsibilities for addressing the 21st Century Cures Act. I will be back in touch soon.

Thanks again,

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor for Public and Private Partnerships
Division of Strategic Communications



OWH_logo_150

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Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Friday, August 04, 2017 4:07 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: 'Austin, Bryn'; 'Claire Mysko'; 'Joslyn Smith'; 'Jillian Lampert'; 'Johanna Kandel'; 'Jillian Lampert'; MPlotkin@eatingrecoverycenter.com
Subject: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Good Afternoon Valerie,

Thank you again for the opportunity for the eating disorders to provide their feedback on the Office of Women's Health's website as it relates to eating disorders (both the Factsheets and the actual website). Over the past month, we have worked with researchers, treatment providers, and advocacy organizations throughout the nation to provide you the most thorough feedback in the field including experts from Harvard University, National Eating Disorders Association, Binge Eating Disorders Association, Alliance for Eating Disorders, and eating disorders specific treatment centers from around the nation.

We'd welcome the opportunity to convene an eating disorders roundtable with the Office of Women's Health, HRSA, and SAMHSA and any other agency actors you see fit to discuss early identification for eating disorders with the public and health professionals per 21st Century Cures provisions. We have noted that HHS has not yet started implementing trainings for our health professionals, so do hope that we can help begin this process. As context, last we helped to pull together experts from around the nation to discuss mental health parity and early identification as it relates to eating disorders including members from the White House Domestic Council, CMS, SAMHSA, DOL, CCIOO, HRSA, and NIMH. These experts came in through their own organizational funding, and would be happy to make it happen again to effectuate the promises in Cures.

Please let me know if we may be able to work together and set-up this discussion to continue to advance the Cures provisions and increase early identification for eating disorders!

Best,

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.

Policy Director

[Eating Disorders Coalition](#)

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From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Friday, June 30, 2017 2:10 PM

To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>

Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Thanks and have a great weekend!

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]

Sent: Friday, June 30, 2017 9:30 AM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Hi Valerie,

Sure thing. Nancy Kelly is who has been arranging it: Nancy.Kelly@samhsa.hhs.gov. We also work closely with Brian Altman in SAMHSA as well: brian.altman@samhsa.hhs.gov on a variety of things.

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.

Policy Director

[Eating Disorders Coalition](#)

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From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2017 10:25 AM

To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Hi Katrina,

Can you give me the names of the people at SAMHSA you are working with? I would like to reach out to them about their eating disorder activities and am not sure whom to contact.

Many thanks!

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2017 12:29 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Good Morning Valerie,

Thank you for providing this information. I am going to send this over to our Research Advisory Board to see if we might suggest adding anything to it 😊. Will get back to you in a couple of weeks!

Regarding the potential of convening a panel of experts to discuss opportunities for more information, awareness, education and training around eating disorders- that is wonderful to hear and actually sounds like steps to activating some of the eating disorders provisions in 21st Century Cures.

We'd welcome the opportunity to help you bring in experts, as we did for the White House Eating Disorder Roundtable last September. For your information, experts from around the nation (from Harvard to Stanford to everything in between) will be in DC around the following dates which may make it easier to coordinate if you will be proceeding:

- July 24th (Meeting with the FDA)- so they could stay for a July 25th meeting- *Note this may be a little difficult though given its only a few weeks away*
- Aug 8 (Meeting with SAMHSA)- they could meet on the 7th
- Oct. 3-5th (Tentative Hill Day which will be finalized timing next week)- they could tag on a day that week

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.
Policy Director
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From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 4:20 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Hi Katrina,

I'm getting back to you from the Office on Women's Health on your inquiry to Laura about incorporating some evidence-based updates about eating disorders on the OWH website. Earlier this month we updated our three fact sheets on eating disorders with the latest evidence-based information. Each fact sheet was reviewed by federal and non-federal experts. The names and affiliations of the reviewers are listed at the end of each fact sheet. Please let me know if you feel we missed anything.

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/anorexia-nervosa#11>
<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/binge-eating-disorder>
<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/bulimia-nervosa>

Also, we may be convening a panel of experts to discuss opportunities and need for information, awareness, education, and training about eating disorders. I will keep you posted on whether this happens and make sure your organization is included in the invitation.

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor for Public and Private Partnerships
Division of Strategic Communications



OWH_logo_150

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Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 12:29 PM
To: 'Laura Koehler'

Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); 'Allison Hall-Jordan'
Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Hi Laura,

Thank you so much for following-up with us! That is wonderful to hear the reach of the Women's Health Week! I've spoken with our social media team and our results from the week were as follows:

Facebook

- • Reach – 37,642
- • 242 reactions
- • 2 comments
- • 68 shares

Twitter

- • Impressions – 6,119
- • 160 engagements
- • 32 likes
- • 33 retweets

Also I'm wondering if you might be able to direct me to the best person within OWH to discuss potentially incorporating some evidence-based updates about eating disorders on the OWH website?

Best,

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.

Policy Director

[Eating Disorders Coalition](#)

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Washington, DC 20001

P: 202-909-0774

www.eatingdisorderscoalition.org

From: Laura Koehler [<mailto:lkoehler@hagerssharp.com>]

Sent: Monday, June 19, 2017 3:13 PM

To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>

Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>; jill.wasserman1@hhs.gov; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Dear Katrina,

Thank you for making the 18th annual National Women's Health Week a success. The numbers are still rolling in, but with the help of partners like you, we are seeing impactful results. More than 72,000 people watched our [Recipe for Health video](#), more than 17,000 women took our [quiz to learn their health style](#), and we reached more than 55 million people through social media.

We appreciate you joining the celebration and spreading the word through your social media channels and via the Huffington Post blog series. It's great to hear about our partners' successes, so if there are any other NWHW activities or metrics that you'd be able to share with us, please let us know.

We want to stay in touch. If there are any upcoming activities or events that your organization is planning for which an OWH spokesperson could be of value, please contact Valerie Borden. Her contact information is at the end of this email.

Thank you again for your support and all you do for women's health. It was a pleasure working with you, and we look forward to continuing our partnership again next year.

Sincerely,

The National Women's Health Week Team

and

Valerie Borden, MPA
Senior Advisor for Public and Private Partnerships
Division of Strategic Communications
Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov
Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-0270

Jill Lauren Wasserman, MPH
Health Education Specialist and NWHW Lead
Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov
Main: 202.690.7650 | Direct: 202.260.9275

Sender:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
Recipient:	Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Sent Date:	2017/09/28 09:52:39
Delivered Date:	2017/09/28 09:52:00

From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
To:	Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject:	RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures
Date:	2017/09/21 14:43:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Katrina,

We plan to send out an email invitation to you and each member of this group next week from Nicole Green, Acting Director. Can you send me the email addresses of everyone listed below?

Thanks!

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org]
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 1:11 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

We are all really looking forward to next week's session! Couple of quick question:

- • What will the set-up be for the session- i.e. conference room style
- • Is there any particular structure for the conversation that I should be keeping in mind?
- • We will be bringing in some example items like doctor's palm references, etc. Do you know how many people from the agency will be in attendance?
- • Also any inclination on who will be attending so that we can be sure to hit on things that may be particularly interesting to them?

Below are the 10 names, credentials and affiliations of next week's session.

1. • **Dr. S. Bryn Austin, ScD**, Professor, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health; Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School; Director of Fellowship Research Training, Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine, Boston Children's Hospital
2. • **Dr. Joel Jahauss, MD, FAED, CEDS**, Chief Medical Officer, Monte Nido and Affiliates

3. • **Johanna S. Kandel-Zaretsky** (“Johanna Kandel”), Chief Executive Officer, Alliance for Eating Disorders Awareness
4. • **Dr. K. Molly McShane, MD, MPH**, Medical Director and Chief of Psychiatry, Oliver-Pyatt Centers
5. • **Claire M. Mysko, MA**, Chief Executive Officer, National Eating Disorders Association
6. • **Dr. Jillian Lampert, PhD, MPH, RD, LD, FAED.**, Chief Strategy Officer, The Emily Program; Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Food Science and Nutrition, University of Minnesota
7. • **Katrina Velasquez, Esq., MA**, Policy Director, Eating Disorders Coalition
8. • **Kitty Westin, MA, LP**, Mother of Anna Westin; Board Member, The Emily Program Foundation
9. • **Dr. Margherita Mascolo, MD**, Medical Director, ACUTE Center for Eating Disorders; Internal Medicine Hospitalist, Denver Health Medical Center; Director of Chest Pain Observation Service, Denver Health Medical Center
10. • **Dr. Therese Waterhous, PhD/RDN, CEDRD**, Nutrition Specialist and President, Willamette Nutrition Source, LLC

Best,

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.

Policy Director

[Eating Disorders Coalition](#)

440 First Street, NW STE 430

Washington, DC 20001

P: 202-909-0774

www.eatingdisorderscoalition.org

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, September 14, 2017 9:45 AM

To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>

Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

It would be good to have the names by Sept 20. Is that doable?

We are happy to include the VA researchers in the meeting. However, we want to listening session to give an opportunity for the non-feds to speak to us. Also we are forming an HHS workgroup on eating disorders and would be fine with the VA researchers joining us. Can you send me their contact

information? For the Oct 4 listening session, they can get into our building since they have federal IDs. Once I have their email addresses I will send them the Outlook meeting invite.

Thanks. Valerie

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 2:51 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

That is wonderful to hear! I am compiling the names- when will you need those by?

Also two VA researchers who are working on evidence-based eating disorders screenings in the primary care setting for the VA Health System, have shown interest in sharing their insight for the civilian side. (Dr. Gibbs & Dr. Garovoy) Is there any different for attendees if they are government employees?

Thank you so much for all of your help!

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.
Policy Director
[Eating Disorders Coalition](#)
440 First Street, NW STE 430
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P: 202-909-0774
www.eatingdisorderscoalition.org

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2017 4:52 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

We are moving forward on our end inviting Feds, finding a room, etc.

Can you send me a list of the names, titles, organizations for each of the attendees? I'll need them in order to get you all through security in our building and for the other federal guests to see.

Thanks!
Valerie

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2017 8:04 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,
Thanks for the clarification on the format, and that sounds great on all counts. Also to answer your question, the group is not a Federal Advisory Committee.
Best,
Katrina

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2017 4:49 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

Yes, it was nice to have a long weekend to catch up on things at home and also fit in some fun!

We are thinking of a listening session where we (HHS folks) would ask the experts questions to learn more about the challenges with education and training, prevention and treatment of Eating Disorders. The 2-4 time slot works for us at this time. I still need to confirm with a few folks here. Once it is settled on this end, I can send a formal invitation letter from the Office on Women's Health Director, Nicole Greene.

How does this sound?

I do have one question: is this group a Federal Advisory Committee?

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Thursday, September 07, 2017 1:20 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

It is great to hear from you! I hope you had a wonderful Labor Day weekend! I'm very glad to hear that you are trying to organize something for October 4th- are you thinking it would be a roundtable discussion with HHS folks, public listening session, or perhaps another format? Our preference of course would be to have a discussion ☺.

We'd have a total of 9 experts present (plus myself, so 10 total) on the 4th. We can definitely limit down or expand as you may see fit. For timing, a 2-4PM slot would be perfect as they all have a training at 6PM near Union Station so it would give them some down time prior to, but also allow them to still fly-in on the 4th as originally planned.

Thanks again,
Katrina

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2017 9:32 AM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

We are trying to organize something for Oct 4. How many experts will be present and approximately what time are they available? For example, 2-4? We can try to get a conference room in the Hubert H Humphrey Building at 200 Independence Ave, SW which is just down the street from the Hill.

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2017 4:28 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

Yes they will be in town for a Hill Day on October 4th (starting at 5PM) and all day on the 5th. They most likely would be able to come in early and participate in activities on the 4th during the day or the 6th. Otherwise, I'm sure we could arrange for them to come in other times throughout the Fall.

Best,
Katrina

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2017 2:13 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

I will check with the editorial team and get back to you about links to more detailed information.

For now, can you tell me more about the purpose of the experts meeting in DC in October? You stated below that is was a tentative Hill day. And is October 6th their only available day?

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2017 12:39 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Valerie,

Thank you for getting back to me and providing this detailed summary. We appreciate you and your editorial team taking into consideration the community's recommendations.

Couple of things:

- Thank you for considering including more diversity in the photos to reduce stigma, providing a detailed overview of eating disorders, considering other eating disorders in the future, and potentially working with NEDA on the helpline. Particularly I know that the CEO, Claire Mysko, is very interested in providing any trainings for hotline staff, so we'd welcome proceeding any way forward you see fit.
- Also thank you for the timeline regarding your editorial team contract. We understand how this works and welcome coordinating the eating disorders community input (i.e. phone, etc.) when they begin on specific edits.
- Question: Regarding item three including different levels of treatment for eating disorders- that makes sense to link to more detailed information for all the disease and conditions, would you possibly be able to elaborate where these links are just so that I can report back to the community on this item?

Finally, it is great to hear that your sister agencies and offices are working on coordinating the remaining portion of 21st Century Cures. We are at your disposal 😊. Do note that many of the experts will be in DC at the beginning of October and would all be available October 6th.

Look forward to hearing from you and I hope you have a wonderful rest of August and great Eclipse day!

Best,

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.
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[Eating Disorders Coalition](#)
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Washington, DC 20001
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www.eatingdisorderscoalition.org

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 4:34 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Hi Katrina,

Thank you for collecting and sending me this thorough review of and feedback on our eating disorders content. I've spoken with the editorial team and wanted to share with you a summary of what we can provide.

B1. Stigma-Reduction Techniques:

We can include more diversity in our photos.

2. Provide an overview of eating disorders:

We can provide a more detailed overview of Eating Disorders.

3. Include the different levels of treatment for eating disorders:

Our content policy is to provide some treatment information but to link to more detailed information for all the disease and conditions we cover on the website.

4. Include other eating disorders outside of the "Big Three":

We will consider adding additional content in the longer term.

5. Women's Helpline:

Yes we'd be very interested in having NEDA train our helpline staff.

6. Include a Screening Tool:

According to our editorial policy our website is a starting point for people. We refer users to sites like NIMH, etc., for access to screening tools, etc.

Regarding the comments and edits to the specific fact sheets, our editorial team is considering these. In a few weeks we will have a new contract in place to help us implement these changes.

We are working with our sister agencies and offices within HHS to determine roles and responsibilities for addressing the 21st Century Cures Act. I will be back in touch soon.

Thanks again,

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor for Public and Private Partnerships
Division of Strategic Communications



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
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OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Friday, August 04, 2017 4:07 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: 'Austin, Bryn'; 'Claire Mysko'; 'Joslyn Smith'; 'Jillian Lampert'; 'Johanna Kandel'; 'Jillian Lampert'; MPlotkin@eatingrecoverycenter.com
Subject: Follow-up: Eating Disorders recommendations for OWH RE: Cures

Good Afternoon Valerie,

Thank you again for the opportunity for the eating disorders to provide their feedback on the Office of Women's Health's website as it relates to eating disorders (both the Factsheets and the actual website). Over the past month, we have worked with researchers, treatment providers, and advocacy organizations throughout the nation to provide you the most thorough feedback in the field including experts from Harvard University, National Eating Disorders Association, Binge Eating Disorders Association, Alliance for Eating Disorders, and eating disorders specific treatment centers from around the nation.

We'd welcome the opportunity to convene an eating disorders roundtable with the Office of Women's Health, HRSA, and SAMHSA and any other agency actors you see fit to discuss early identification for eating disorders with the public and health professionals per 21st Century Cures provisions. We have noted that HHS has not yet started implementing trainings for our health professionals, so do hope that we can help begin this process. As context, last we helped to pull together experts from around the nation to discuss mental health parity and early identification as it relates to eating disorders including members from the White House Domestic Council, CMS, SAMHSA, DOL, CCIOO, HRSA, and NIMH. These experts came in through their own organizational funding, and would be happy to make it happen again to effectuate the promises in Cures.

Please let me know if we may be able to work together and set-up this discussion to continue to advance the Cures provisions and increase early identification for eating disorders!

Best,

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.

Policy Director

[Eating Disorders Coalition](#)

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From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Friday, June 30, 2017 2:10 PM

To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>

Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Thanks and have a great weekend!

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]

Sent: Friday, June 30, 2017 9:30 AM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Hi Valerie,

Sure thing. Nancy Kelly is who has been arranging it: Nancy.Kelly@samhsa.hhs.gov. We also work closely with Brian Altman in SAMHSA as well: brian.altman@samhsa.hhs.gov on a variety of things.

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.

Policy Director

[Eating Disorders Coalition](#)

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Washington, DC 20001

P: 202-909-0774

www.eatingdisorderscoalition.org

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2017 10:25 AM

To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>

Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Hi Katrina,

Can you give me the names of the people at SAMHSA you are working with? I would like to reach out to them about their eating disorder activities and am not sure whom to contact.

Many thanks!

Valerie Borden

From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2017 12:29 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Good Morning Valerie,

Thank you for providing this information. I am going to send this over to our Research Advisory Board to see if we might suggest adding anything to it ☺. Will get back to you in a couple of weeks!

Regarding the potential of convening a panel of experts to discuss opportunities for more information, awareness, education and training around eating disorders- that is wonderful to hear and actually sounds like steps to activating some of the eating disorders provisions in 21st Century Cures.

We'd welcome the opportunity to help you bring in experts, as we did for the White House Eating Disorder Roundtable last September. For your information, experts from around the nation (from Harvard to Stanford to everything in between) will be in DC around the following dates which may make it easier to coordinate if you will be proceeding:

- July 24th (Meeting with the FDA)- so they could stay for a July 25th meeting- *Note this may be a little difficult though given its only a few weeks away*
- Aug 8 (Meeting with SAMHSA)- they could meet on the 7th
- Oct. 3-5th (Tentative Hill Day which will be finalized timing next week)- they could tag on a day that week

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.
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From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2017 4:20 PM
To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Hi Katrina,

I'm getting back to you from the Office on Women's Health on your inquiry to Laura about incorporating some evidence-based updates about eating disorders on the OWH website. Earlier this month we updated our three fact sheets on eating disorders with the latest evidence-based information. Each fact sheet was reviewed by federal and non-federal experts. The names and affiliations of the reviewers are listed at the end of each fact sheet. Please let me know if you feel we missed anything.

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/anorexia-nervosa#11>
<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/binge-eating-disorder>
<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/bulimia-nervosa>

Also, we may be convening a panel of experts to discuss opportunities and need for information, awareness, education, and training about eating disorders. I will keep you posted on whether this happens and make sure your organization is included in the invitation.

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor for Public and Private Partnerships
Division of Strategic Communications



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200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

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OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
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From: Katrina Velasquez [<mailto:kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2017 12:29 PM
To: 'Laura Koehler'
Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS); 'Allison Hall-Jordan'
Subject: RE: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Hi Laura,

Thank you so much for following-up with us! That is wonderful to hear the reach of the Women's Health Week! I've spoken with our social media team and our results from the week were as follows:

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Best,

Katrina Velasquez, Esq., M.A.

Policy Director

[Eating Disorders Coalition](#)

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From: Laura Koehler [<mailto:lkoehler@hagerssharp.com>]

Sent: Monday, June 19, 2017 3:13 PM

To: Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>

Cc: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>; jill.wasserman1@hhs.gov; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>

Subject: Thank you from the National Women's Health Week team

Dear Katrina,

Thank you for making the 18th annual National Women's Health Week a success. The numbers are still rolling in, but with the help of partners like you, we are seeing impactful results. More than 72,000 people watched our [Recipe for Health video](#), more than 17,000 women took our [quiz to learn their health style](#), and we reached more than 55 million people through social media.

We appreciate you joining the celebration and spreading the word through your social media channels and via the Huffington Post blog series. It's great to hear about our partners' successes, so if there are any other NWHW activities or metrics that you'd be able to share with us, please let us know.

We want to stay in touch. If there are any upcoming activities or events that your organization is planning for which an OWH spokesperson could be of value, please contact Valerie Borden. Her contact information is at the end of this email.

Thank you again for your support and all you do for women's health. It was a pleasure working with you, and we look forward to continuing our partnership again next year.

Sincerely,

The National Women's Health Week Team

and

Valerie Borden, MPA
Senior Advisor for Public and Private Partnerships
Division of Strategic Communications
Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov
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Jill Lauren Wasserman, MPH
Health Education Specialist and NWHW Lead
Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov
Main: 202.690.7650 | Direct: 202.260.9275

Sender:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
Recipient:	Katrina Velasquez <kvelasquez@eatingdisorderscoalition.org>
Sent Date:	2017/09/21 14:43:03
Delivered Date:	2017/09/21 14:43:00

From:	Lemar, Naweed (OS/ASPA) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BDD222A2AC644600A7167233AF2271F8-LEMAR, NAWEE>
To:	OS - Nightly Report </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d846ad1b75b14263ab56046f271527b7-NightlyRepo>
Subject:	Nightly Report for Tuesday, October 17, 2017
Date:	2017/10/16 17:00:41
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

HHS PRESS OFFICE NIGHTLY REPORT

Tuesday, October 17, 2017

Press Releases

N/A

Major Media Contacts

ACF

Renuka Rayasam of Politico (D.C.), Eva Fedderly of Courthouse News Service (Calif.), Elise Foley of the Huffington Post (D.C.), Mary Robbins of the Texas Lawyer Online, and Sophie Novack of The Texas Observer were provided a statement about ORR's unaccompanied alien children program.

Lia Kvatum of the Washington Post was provided a statement concerning income eligibility for child care subsidies.

AHRQ

Jillian Mock, a freelance science journalist working on a service journalism article, requested an interview on the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force's draft recommendation statement on Screening for Cervical Cancer. Her request is pending.

Fran Kritz from the American Association for Clinical Chemistry requested information on the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force's draft recommendation statement on Screening for Cervical Cancer. She was provided the information.

CDC

Jamie Stengle with the Associated Press interviewed Dennis Reidy, PhD, CDC's Injury Center about intimate partner violence, and domestic abuse against men.

CMS

Emily Bobrow of The Economist requested information about Brookdale University Hospital in Brooklyn. Region 2 Public Affairs Officer is working to provide information on said hospital's survey reports.

Melanie Hicken (CNN) asked if it would be possible to obtain an excel version of the most current Special Focus Facility list on our website. A press officer is trying to obtain the list in excel format and, if available, will send it to the reporter.

FDA

Raphael Grand, Swiss Broadcast Corporation, requested an interview on the FDA's approval of the first gene therapy in the U.S. Referred reporter to FDA's media call and press release online. (AF)

Jeneen Interlandi, Consumer Reports, requested information on stem cell treatments, and clinical trials in the U.S. In development. (AF/LSD)

Darius Tahir, Politico, interviewed FDA's associated director for digital health about software as a medical device regulation and innovation. (SC)

Chris McDaniel, BuzzFeed, with questions about FDA position on importing specific drug from India. In progress. (LSD)

Caroline Chen, Bloomberg, fact checking profile of OCE Director Richard Pazdur. In progress. (AS)

Danny Hakim, New York Times (London), requested an update on FDA's Guidance for Industry #213 and the how effective it has been at curbing antibiotic use in animal agriculture and the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Developing written response. (JP)

NIH

ASHG TV 2017's Dan Henriquez interviewed NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins, about ASHG Annual Meeting in Orlando.

CNBC's Andrew Zaleski interviewed Dr. Jerri Miller, NINR, about CNBC's Modern Medicine report on a chatbox for end of life care.

The New York Times' Michael Moss interviewed Dr. Kevin Hall, NIDDK, about effect of fats and carbs on body fat.

SAMHSA

Freelance reporter Diane Eastabrook is seeking an interview to discuss teen addiction and the role recovery high school might play. We are arranging.

Regional Outlets and Other Interviews and Background

CMS

Daniel Chang of the Miami Herald; Diane Lade of the Sun Sentinel; and Ronny Rojas of Univision (Miami), requested a copy of the most recent 2567 survey for the Rehabilitation Center at Hollywood Hills, which is at the center of a criminal investigation in connection with the deaths of 11 patients following Hurricane Irma. Region IV Press Officer released the cleared 2567 inspection reports and Immediate Jeopardy findings; inquiry closed.

Kiplyn Primus, of WCLK. 91.9 “Local Take” (Atlanta, Public Affairs NPR program); and Katie Bodard Goytowski, staff writer for Childs World News (online publication), inquired about the status of the CHIP program “now that funding has run out/expired.” CMS’ Atlanta Press Officer shared under current law, there is limited Federal funding from previous fiscal years available to fund a portion of state CHIP expenditures in FY 2018. This information was shared on background and cleared by OC leadership; inquiry closed.

Dake Kang, multi-format reporter for Associated Press (Cleveland, OH), is seeking information about states in several CMS Regions that may have Medicaid programs that cover acupuncture. He is working on an article about an increasing interest in alternative pain therapies to opioids. A CMS Region Press Officers shared that state would be the best source of information and provided state public information office contacts with the reporter and related websites; inquiry closed.

Mike Leahy, a reporter for the Tennessean; Nancy Amos of WSMV; and Jesse and Brittany Martin of The McKenzie Tennessee Banner requested information centered on Dr. Merrick’s complaint about his Medicare billing privileges being revoked surrounding fraudulent billing practices. Region IV Press Officer shared the following information: <https://exclusions.oig.hhs.gov/>; CMS links to provider appeals process to reapply or request a redetermination to return to the federal healthcare program.

Liz Crawford, reporter for WTSP 10 News (Tampa, FL) requested a copy of the emergency management plans for nursing homes and assisted living facilities in six counties within the Tampa metro area. CMS Atlanta Region IV Press team shared that the state survey agency reviews such plans during annual surveys, and recommended the reporter contact state to obtain emergency plans for individual nursing homes; inquiry closed.

Bob Aller of Medical Instructional Media in Lompoc, CA asked if substance abuse recovery treatment centers, under the facility category of Chemical Dependency Rehabilitation Hospitals (CDRH), need CMS certification or other accreditation in order to receive reimbursement under the ACA. Checking with DSC and SAMHSA.

Rhoda Slagle, Regional Coordinator for El Dorado County, CA, distributes the RA monthly column to senior center newsletters or local newspapers in her area. She asked for CMS confirmation that it is acceptable for her to edit the column language to reflect local resources (such as the name of the SHIP in CA). MRG provide clarification.

Susan Ambrose, reporter for The Morning News in Dallas, asked for any releasable inspection reports or enforcement letters for Timberlawn psychiatric hospital in Garland since July 2017. The regional press officer is working with the Dallas Division of Survey and Certification to provide the requested materials.

Christina Jewett, a senior correspondent, Kaiser Health News, Sacramento, CA, inquired regarding the current status of a termed Utah Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) - Cascade Cosmetic Surgery Center. The ASC was terminated by us on 12/28/14. The Denver media contact worked with our Survey and Certification staff to check/verify if the ASC has come back

into compliance, and they have not. The correspondent was notified of this and how she could request a copy of the final termination letter via the Freedom of Information Act. Closed.

Leslie Pappas, Bloomberg News, contacted CMS' Philadelphia Public Affairs looking to confirm and to get any additional information on the approval of a 1115 Waiver for West Virginia, to expand coverage for those diagnosed with a substance use disorder. She was provided with a link to the Medicaid site containing a copy of the waiver, and a fact sheet.

Erin Beck, Charleston (WV) Gazette-Mail, contacted CMS Philadelphia Public Affairs looking for information on the approval of the 1115 Waiver for West Virginia to expand coverage for substance use disorder. She was provided with a link to the Medicaid site containing a copy of the waiver and fact sheet.

Daniel Simmons-Ritchie, Harrisburg (PA) Patriot-News, working on a follow-up to his series on nursing home oversight in Pennsylvania, found in his analysis of CMS's deficiency dataset that 36 citations for immediate jeopardy violations were issued in Pa. between July 1, 2016 and June, 30, 2017, but that it appears that no federal penalties were issues for any of them. He sent the RO3 Press Officer a spreadsheet with those deficiencies, and asked if that meant that no penalties were issued, or if the data had not yet be uploaded to the CMS website. Region 3 survey and certification staff are reviewing the information, and the Public Affairs Officer indicated it will take some time for review and response.

Nicole Brambilla, Reading (PA) Eagle had a series of questions and requests related to the Oct. 6th letter from Administrator Verma to Sen. Grassley in wake of an August OIG report finding a CMS failure to cite nursing homes that fail to report abuse. The CMS Regional Public Affairs Officer in Philadelphia advised the reporter to put her query into a FOIA request.

Tamala Baker, Herald-Mail, Hagerstown, MD, asked Region 3 Public Affairs if CMS know of a new owner for the former NMS Hagerstown, a nursing facility that was terminated from Medicare this past summer. CMS has no record/information on a new NMS owner.

Ryan Mills of Naples Daily News contacted CMS needing to know the meaning of the rankings of the scope column in the deficiencies data on the Nursing Home Compare website. CCSQ provided a link to the technical user's manual and the scope/severity grid.

Jim Mulder with Syracuse.com requested any recent survey plans of correction for James Square Nursing Home in Upstate New York. CMS NY Public Affairs Officer is working to provide response.

Crystal Chicas with the Preferred Vascular Group had questions about coverage for beneficiaries impacted by hurricane relocation. CMS New York (Region 2) Public Affairs Officer provided response based on guidance from the region's Regional Administrator for Medicaid.

Sarah Matusek, The Mott Haven Herald, inquired about Medicare and Medicaid fraud complaints. Region 2 Public Affairs Officer provided appropriate response.

Pamela Davis of KUSI News in San Diego, CA requested a CMS rep to speak about Medicare open enrollment on the air. CMS San Francisco's acting public affairs officer is scheduling for the Regional Administrator.

Melanie Hicken (CNN) asked if it would be possible to obtain an excel version of the most current Special Focus Facility list on our website. A press officer is trying to obtain the list in excel format and, if available, will send it to the reporter.

Mark Alesia, reporter for The Star in Indianapolis, IN, asked for all inspection reports for East Texas Eye Associates of Lufkin, TX, for the past five years. The regional press officer worked with the Dallas Division of Survey and Certification to provide the requested material.

Casey Geraldo from NBC TMJ4 in Milwaukee submitted an inquiry to the Chicago Regional Office about a survey being conducted at a Froedtert Hospital near Milwaukee this week. Our DSC reports that there are no State surveyors on site this week.

Mary Ellen Schneider (OB/GYN News) asked when clinicians must submit claims if they are participating in the 'test' year option. A press officer responded that services must be complete by 12/31/17 and claims submitted to CMS by 03/31/18.

"Medicare Minute," a 60-second radio spot narrated by San Francisco Regional Administrator Greg Dill, was distributed to radio stations in AZ, CA, HI, and NV. This month's spot focuses on Medicare open enrollment season.

Christina Jewett, Kaiser Health News, Sacramento bureau, asked the San Francisco regional office to recheck the status of a Southern California ASC. She is doing a national story on alleged inconsistencies between certifications of ASCs by CMS versus accreditation organizations. Checking.

Chad Pradelli, an investigative reporter, for WPVI-TV / ABC Philadelphia affiliate, asked for an interview with regard to Medicare Nursing Home Ratings. CMS declined the on-camera opportunity and shared responses to a number of questions that can be used to clarify audience concerns.

Jordan Rau, a senior correspondent for Kaiser Health News, is reaching a news story about infection control lapses in Skilled Nursing Facilities. Several hundred SNFs have been repeatedly cited and he is interested in getting the perspective of CMS. A CMS press officer is working with the subject matter teams to answer.

A CMS press officer successfully pursued clarifications on a recent HHS OIG report on unique device identifiers. Clarifications on CMS' efforts and the agency's responses to the OIG recommendations appeared in POLITICO, Bloomberg BNA and other publications.

FDA

Maxine Joselow, E&E News, with questions on implementation of the Executive Orders related to regulatory reform. Referred to HHS. (MF)

Derrick Gingery, Pink Sheet, seeking information about upcoming public meeting on orphan drugs; no date has been set but we anticipate it being held in early 2018. (SW)

Alicia Wallace, The Cannabist (Denver Post), received statement to correct information regarding a purported meeting between FDA and a company selling CBD products. (MF)

Cynthia Ramirez, Letras Libres (Mexico), received copy of CTP Director Mitch Zeller's presentation from the 2017 Global Tobacco and Nicotine Forum. (MF)

Matt Schneiderman, Healthline, with questions about an HHS OIG report on medical device recalls and Medicare payments. In progress. (SC)

Kristine Frazao, ABC7 DC, asked about Bruins SEM Scanner for pressure ulcers; was told that the FDA cannot confirm or comment on product applications. (SC)

Jim Dickinson, FDA Webview, with questions about FDA's first patient engagement advisory committee meeting. In progress. (SC)

Ellen McGrody, ay City Beacon (Oakland, CA), requested FDA comment on LGBTQ blood donor eligibility. (AF)

David Lim, Inside Health Policy, requested transcript of Dr. Gottlieb's full remarks from the Wall Street Journal's Food Forum. We do not have a transcript/prepared remarks. (JP)

Jerry Mitchell, Clarion-Ledger (Jackson, Miss.), received link to Drugs@FDA database. (MF)

Joanna Marszalek, Polish Daily News, requested information after a reader complained about not being able to donate blood because he lived in Poland since 1981. In development. (AF)

Nick Florko, Inside Health Policy, with questions on report to Congress as part of Ensuring Patient Access and Effective Drug Enforcement Act. Referred to HHS. (MF)

Jim Myers, ECigIntelligence, seeking comment on Sen. Schumer's remarks on FDA e-cigarette regulations. (MF)

NIH

Pacific Standard's Francie Diep contracted NIH, about training for scientists.

Endocrine Today's Regina Schaffer interviewed Dr. William C. Knowler, NIDDK, about serum lipids and mortality in an American Indian population.

Cancer Discovery's Alyssa Poh interviewed Dr. Jacqueline L. Milne and Dr. Sriram Subramaniam, NCI, about Cryo-EM / Nobel Prize.

Nature's Michael Eisenstein interviewed Dr. Cecile Viboud, FIC, about using "big data" from diverse sources to improve detection and tracking of infectious diseases.

Wired's Caitlin Harrington interviewed Dr. Roger Miller, NIDCD, about cochlear implants.

Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology News / Clinical OMICs' Alex Philippidis contacted NIH, about NIH's Partnership for Accelerating Cancer Therapies.

Real Simple magazine's Sharlene Breakey interviewed Dr. Aaron White, NIAAA, about advice to parents on talking to children about alcohol.

SAMHSA

Micha Green from the AFRO Newspaper is seeking a statement regarding drug testing among federal employees in states where marijuana is legalized. We are researching.

V/R,

Naweed Lemar

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Direct: 202-690-6889

Mobile: 202-815-9968

Email: naweed.lemar@hhs.gov

Sender:	Lemar, Naweed (OS/ASPA) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BDD222A2AC644600A7167233AF2271F8-LEMAR, NAWEE>
Recipient:	OS - Nightly Report </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d846ad1b75b14263ab56046f271527b7-NightlyRepo>
Sent Date:	2017/10/16 17:00:25
Delivered Date:	2017/10/16 17:00:41

From:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	RE: Violence website content PDF question
Date:	2017/10/20 09:40:24
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Yes, the health writers review all of the approved content and try to pull out the content that seems most useful for this type of piece.

I'll ask Shavon about that group. Thanks!

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2017 9:39 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: RE: Violence website content PDF question

Hi Brooke,

I have never heard of the Natl Coalition of Anti Violence Programs so I question that one (mainly because I'm not familiar with it). Maybe you can check with Shavon? The other orgs are appropriate.

I read to content but am not familiar with all of it such as "what to do if you've been assaulted." I assume this language came from our approved VAW web content?

Val

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2017 7:53 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Violence website content PDF question

Hi,

(b)(6)

Thanks!
 Brooke

Brooke Leggin

Web and Community Manager



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: brooke.leggin@hhs.gov

Work Hours: 7:30 am to 4:00 pm ET

Main: 202-690-7650 | **Direct:** M, Th, F 202-205-2373 T, W 301-864-2607

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
Recipient:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Sent Date:	2017/10/20 09:40:24

From:	Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=AC73A58EE24044BC98C4DD74E24D8740-PHENIX, ADR>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: Concern for PCOS Diva blog post featured on website
Date:	2017/04/24 09:38:59
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Great, thanks Valerie. I'll send your response to Angela.

AP

-----Original Message-----

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Monday, April 24, 2017 9:38 AM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Subject: FW: Concern for PCOS Diva blog post featured on website

Brooke and Adrienne,

Jenn has approved the response I wrote below.

Thanks. Valerie

-----Original Message-----

From: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 4:44 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Concern for PCOS Diva blog post featured on website

Hi Val,

Nicely written response. Please have it sent forward under the Office on Women's Health signature.

Let's discuss these kinds of blogs a bit more moving forward. This and Gessie's Blog is making me think about how to approach these complimentary/alternative medical cures and I don't want our office to be put in the middle of these kinds of debates, particularly when we some claims are grounded in specious research.

Jenn

-----Original Message-----

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Friday, April 21, 2017 4:37 PM
To: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH)
Subject: FW: Concern for PCOS Diva blog post featured on website

Jenn, Please read from the bottom up. I provided a response to this woman's complaints about our PCOS blog. Please let me know if you have any edits.

Val

Angela,

Thank you for your comments regarding our guest blog post on PCOS. The Office on Women's Health's blog criteria specifies that the guest writer provide commentary, data, or information on a women's health issue that the Office on Women's Health is interested in covering on the blog. We know that PCOS is a topic of interest among our followers. We also understand there is disagreement in the patient community about what works best for the treatment of PCOS. We are grateful for what your organization offers in terms of diet and nutrition information for women with PCOS. Feel free to engage in a discussion of the blog post on our Facebook page. Our comment policy is under the Collaborate with Us section at: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/about-us/work-us/collaborate-us>.

Thank you for providing the two additional non-profit resources. These have been shared with the web team and will be added to the fact sheet within the next few months.

Please let us know if we can reach out to you or someone you recommend if we have more content on this topic in the future.

Thank you again for your feedback.

Office on Women's Health

-----Original Message-----

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 1:42 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Womenshealth
Subject: FW: Concern for PCOS Diva blog post featured on website

Hi Valerie,

Can you draft a response to this person about a recent blog post? Adrienne can provide standard language for her other suggestion about additional organizations to list on the website.

Thanks.
Brooke

-----Original Message-----

From: Womenshealth
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 1:39 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Subject: FW: Concern for PCOS Diva blog post featured on website

Hi Brooke,

Please let me know how you would like to respond to Angela's concerns.

Thanks,

AP

-----Original Message-----

From: Angela Grassi [mailto:agrassi@pcosnutrition.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 10:17 AM
To: Womenshealth
Subject: Concern for PCOS Diva blog post featured on website

To Whom it May Concern,

I was disappointed and concerned to see a blog post written by Amy Medling, the "PCOS Diva" on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health website. Amy Medling received her health coaching certificate after completing a 1 year online course through the Integrative Institute for Nutrition. In contrast, registered dietitian nutritionists such as myself, are required to have a bachelor's degree in nutrition, complete a 12 month internship, and successfully pass an exam to be an RDN. We also have to complete 75 hours every five years in continuing education credits to stay an RDN.

As an RDN who specializes in PCOS and a women with the condition, I am concerned about the message U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health conveys to its readers with PCOS by featuring this blog post. I realize you have a disclaimer that states "these statements and opinions in this blog post are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health" however, by featuring this blog post, you are exposing women with PCOS to inaccurate advice and provide an option to seek out more information from her.

Women with PCOS have been found to have a 4 times higher rate of developing an eating disorder. I have found some of

the information provided by Amy Medling to be inaccurate, false, and harmful. For example, in the past she recommended women take d-chiro inositol which was found to worsen egg quality in women with PCOS, advised women to take green coffee bean extract because it gave her "clarity" and recommends women take berberine for acne treatment. The promotion of gluten-free and dairy free diets to women with PCOS which she stated in her blog post on the Women's Health.gov site is worrisome. There is no such research to back up these claims. How can U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office promote content from someone who does not base her work on evidence and allow false claims to be presented on their website?

I encourage you to remove this blog post.

I would be happy to assist you in providing evidence-based nutrition recommendations to women with PCOS for your website or other publications.

As a side note, I also noticed the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health listing the PCOS Foundation as a non-profit organization for women with PCOS. This non-profit is no longer active. May I suggest 2 great non-profits for women with PCOS:

PCOS Challenge, the largest which has a scientific advisory panel and PCOS Awareness Association.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Angela Grassi, MS, RDN, LDN

Founder, PCOS Nutrition Center

--

Angela Grassi, MS, RD, LDN
The PCOS Nutrition Center
14 S. Bryn Mawr Avenue, Suite 204
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
(484) 252-9028
www.PCOSnutritionCenter.com

Author, PCOS: The Dietitian's Guide, 2nd edition, &The PCOS Workbook:

Your Guide to Complete Physical and Emotional Health and The PCOS Nutrition Center Cookbook Sign up for FREE PCOS Nutrition Tips.

Linked In: <http://www.linkedin.com/in/angelagrassi>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PCOSnutrition>

Twitter: @PCOSnutrition

Sender:	Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=AC73A58EE24044BC98C4DD74E24D8740-PHENIX, ADR>
Recipient:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>; Leggins, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggins, Bro>
Sent Date:	2017/04/24 09:38:58
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From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
To:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>
Subject:	RE: Request for Review: ICDI Women and Girls' Health Resources
Date:	2018/03/21 16:51:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thanks Brooke.

From: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2018 4:20 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: Request for Review: ICDI Women and Girls' Health Resources

Hi Val,

On March 1 we just launched the new Getting Active, Healthy Weight, and Healthy Eating sections of the Womenshealth.gov website that replace the former Fitness and Nutrition sections along with the Overweight and Obesity fact sheet. Therefore the URLs and descriptions contained in the Word document you attached are no longer correct.

The place where we specifically address women with disabilities is on the page at <https://www.womenshealth.gov/getting-active/physical-activity-all-women>. Healthy eating and healthy weight are not specific to women with disabilities so we do not have specific resources for women who are differently abled on those pages.

Hope this helps.
Brooke

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2018 4:12 PM
To: Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH); Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: FW: Request for Review: ICDI Women and Girls' Health Resources

Hi Brooke and Ann,

Can you or if appropriate someone from Hager Sharp review the attached resource list to make sure it includes all we have to offer for women and girls on Physical Activity, Healthy Eating, Women and Girls Health, and Disability by April 20? This is for the I Can Do It campaign for women and girls with disabilities.

Thanks.
Valerie

From:	Maultsby, Marilyn (CMS/OC) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=6345829A054E4C47B481E02D2C30870D-M2AV>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	RE: New Medicare Card - New Partner Resources and Web Page Updates
Date:	2018/02/12 06:49:55
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Thanks Valerie.

Also, below are a few new additions to the CMS New Medicare card Partners & Employers page:

- The New Medicare Card slides from January 31, 2018 National Medicare Education Program webinar are available, labeled as the January 2018 partner update slides.
- The "10 Things to Know About Your New Medicare Card" fact sheet is now available in additional languages (Korean, Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, Arabic).
- A downloadable (captioned) version of the informational video is available. This version can be used in patient waiting rooms or other venues where patients congregate.

The captioned video will be important to some of your partners reaching the hearing impaired communities.

Marilyn D. Maultsby
Senior Advisor and CMS SHIP Liaison
Partner Relations Group
Office of Communications
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
(410) 786-6488
Marilyn.Maultsby@cms.hhs.gov



<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/New-Medicare-Card/Partners-and-Employers/SSNRI-widget-120x130.png>

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Saturday, February 10, 2018 3:35 PM
To: Maultsby, Marilyn (CMS/OC) <Marilyn.Maultsby@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: New Medicare Card - New Partner Resources and Web Page Updates

Thanks Marilyn,

We will cross post your blog on Womenshealth.gov. We will promote it over our social media channels and through our listserv. We will distribute other resources especially over social media.

Best,

Valerie Borden

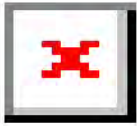
From: Maultsby, Marilyn (CMS/OC)
Sent: Thursday, February 08, 2018 11:11 AM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: New Medicare Card - New Partner Resources and Web Page Updates

Hi Valerie,

The message is the same for all people with Medicare, men and women. I appreciate you cross posting our current blog on the new Medicare card. What website will you post the blog on? Will you be distributing the other resources to your colleagues and listservs as well?

Thanks,

Marilyn D. Maultsby
Senior Advisor and CMS SHIP Liaison
Partner Relations Group
Office of Communications
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
(410) 786-6488
Marilyn.Maultsby@cms.hhs.gov



<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/New-Medicare-Card/Partners-and-Employers/Beneficiary-widget-150x120.png>

From: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 1:27 PM
To: Maultsby, Marilyn (CMS/OC) <Marilyn.Maultsby@cms.hhs.gov>
Subject: FW: New Medicare Card - New Partner Resources and Web Page Updates

Hi Marilyn,

I manage the Womenshealth.gov blog for the Office on Women's Health. I received your resources in this email including your blog. Is it possible for your team to write a women-specific blog on the New Medicare Card? If not (i.e. the messaging is the same for men and women) then we will cross post your current blog.

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor for Public and Private Partnerships
Division of Strategic Communications



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov
Main: 202-690-7650 | **Direct:** 202-205-0270
Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

From: Maultsby, Marilyn (CMS/OC)
Sent: Friday, January 26, 2018 9:12 AM
Subject: New Medicare Card - New Partner Resources and Web Page Updates

Hello Federal Partner,

CMS has updated its New Medicare Card web pages to provide new resources for beneficiaries, partners and stakeholders. New resources are available for download as we prepare for the card mailing starting in April 2018. Please see the attachments for more information.

Please share with your colleagues and partner listservs.

Thank You,

Marilyn D. Maultsby
Senior Advisor and CMS SHIP Liaison
Partner Relations Group
Office of Communications
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
(410) 786-6488
Marilyn.Maultsby@cms.hhs.gov

Sender:	Maultsby, Marilyn (CMS/OC) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=6345829A054E4C47B481E02D2C30870D-M2AV>
Recipient:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Sent Date:	2018/02/12 06:49:52
Delivered Date:	2018/02/12 06:49:55

From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
To:	Armene M. Kourouyan <akourouy@usc.edu>; Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
CC:	Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c4fdb2a19ad4755a5a8932dbf993ff4-Smith, Apri>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	RE: Surgeon General in LA in February
Date:	2017/02/22 09:14:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Armene,

I'm not entirely sure how you create the tip sheets. I have included links to two resources in this email that give a lot of detail about opioid use, misuse, treatment and prevention. However, I've also included some angles below that may appeal more to the writers/producers than a fact sheet with data. The information in the two resource links support these angles. Please let me know if all this is helpful and if you need anything else.

The easiest thing is to focus on the increases in women as compared to men, although some of the newest data out of CDC is showing a leveling off in this area (some of the new data is in the HHS/OWH white paper, some came out after it was done). <https://www.womenshealth.gov/publications/federal-report/index.html#a2016>

Some other angles to consider:

1) Women as parents and caregivers: An obvious hook here would be the increase in women using during pregnancy and the rise in neonatal abstinence syndrome, but there are other angles here. For example, women with children have a lot of challenges getting treatment and other resources because they are often not family friendly. There is also the fact that women often bear responsibility for family members with substance use disorders, because of their role as the health care gatekeeper for the family.

2) The dramatic increase in overdoses as a result of fentanyl and other synthetics: While there is not a significant gender disparity here, this is a huge issue that is only going to get worse. One angle is the fact that people are unknowingly buying and using fentanyl because dealers are mixing it with other drugs and not telling their customers (fentanyl is cheaper than other opioids, but also far more deadly in small doses).

3) Naloxone and Good Samaritan laws: This is a good news story – the fact that the increasingly availability of naloxone has cut down the number of fatal overdoses. However, there has been at least one study that has suggested that women are less likely to get naloxone (especially older women) because they do not fit the typical “addict” profile and first responders don't initially recognize that they have overdosed.

In addition to the white paper provided above, another good resource is the CDC grand rounds session: (<https://www.cdc.gov/cdcgrandrounds/archives/2017/january2017.htm>).

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor

Division of Strategic Communications



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

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OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 3:13 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb

Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)

Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

In preparation for the April event, we wanted to get started on drafting a tip sheet on opioids. Is there a particular topic or direction you'd like us to focus on for the tip sheet?

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH

Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society

USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center

8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211

p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at 1:07 PM

To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I have two potential people for the panel. Let me know what you think.

Dr. Keisha Downey – she has worked in the LA area doing addiction counseling.

Cortney Lovell is a recovery coach, addictions counselor, and national advocate.

I do plan to come to the event as will my supervisor, Jennifer Bishop Crawford. What time of day do you plan to hold the event?

I'm available to discuss further:

Thurs, between 2:30-5

Fri, Between 2:30-5

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2017 5:09 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Yes we are confirmed for April 19th. I'm still waiting to nail down a conference space at Children's Hospital, which is likely to happen, but if for some odd reason it doesn't work we'll find another venue for that date.

Also, I believe you had some "real people" that would be willing to share their personal stories at the panel. We'd like to invite one or two storytellers to give their personal account of opioids addiction/recovery. If you have anyone to recommend that would be great. Will you be joining for the event as well?

Just let me know some dates/times you are available for a call and we can discuss further details.

Best regards,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center

8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 7:36 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I'm checking in again on the date. The SG is planning on the 19th so I hope that date will work. Can we set up a call to go over the details?

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 1:31 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Of course. Will try to confirm that date asap.

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
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From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, January 27, 2017 at 2:05 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I've been told that the SG is available on April 19 so can you please try to make that date work if possible?

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 4:55 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

We had to look into a venue change because we learned that the WGA venue is unavailable for events through June due to internal negotiations. We are considering a conference room space at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. I'm checking availability for that week of April 17th. I'll let you know the options as soon as possible.

Great blog. We'll definitely share it through our social media as well.

Best,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center
8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 12:18 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Armine and Kate,

Do you have a confirmed date yet for the Writer's Guild West event in April? It looks like the SG will still be with us so the sooner I get an exact date the greater the chances he can attend. I'd also like to get started on reaching out to the other speakers. I have given the tentative dates to the survivor, Cortney Lovell. And just today we posted a blog by her on our website:

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog/the-power-of-women-and-recovery.html>

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 2:59 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Please see the attached form. Let me know if you need anything else. A few spots are guestimates for now (audience size) but a good ballpark to start with.

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center
8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Thursday, January 5, 2017 at 8:21 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Armine,

I will keep you posted on the SG's LA date for Jan or March.

Can you look at the attached invitation for the SG to come to the April event and correct and fill in the blanks? I have several question marks, etc.

Thanks!

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 4:14 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Great, just keep us posted on his date in LA and we'll pitch a briefing to a couple of shows. We'll definitely ask Grey's Anatomy since I'm sure they'd be interested in speaking with him in depth.

As for the event, we are looking at either April 19th or 20th. It'll be at the Writers Guild of America, West in Los Angeles. We will be holding a board meeting that evening, and since our board is comprised of network executives and showrunners, we thought it would be great to have the SG be a featured speaker at the meeting for a more intimate event, with possibly a few other handpicked guests as well.

It'd be great to have the opioid survivor speak as well (I just need her full name, email and phone to add her to our database).

I'm in the process of checking availability for those dates so I'll let you know as soon as I have more info.

Please let me know if you have any other questions in the meantime.

Best,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center
8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 11:56 AM
To: Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>, "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Kate and Armine,

The SG's office just let me know that they are currently finalizing his LA schedule. The back-up date for Feb 21st is March 14th. I'll keep you posted on the date so you can set up some meetings.

Also I was told to submit a request for the April Opioids event which is a good sign! Can you tell me if the event is still scheduled for April and any other details so I can put into the SG's invite request? I'll need the subject, location, other invited speakers, etc.

Thanks. Valerie

From: Kate Langrall Folb [<mailto:langrall@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 12:51 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Armine M. Kourouyan
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,
Happy New Year!
Sorry for the late response but we were closed over the holidays.
Unfortunately, we have another event scheduled for Feb. 22 that we cannot change. However, if the SG would have some time on the 21st, we would love to pitch him to meet one-on-one with a show or two.

Do you have any idea when/if the SG will change? How shall we proceed in working with the current SG for the 21st?

Armine will connect with you regarding the opioid survivor.

Kate

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, December 23, 2016 at 8:29 AM
To: Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>, "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Kate and Armine,

I wanted to let you that the Surgeon General will be in Los Angeles on Feb 21. We had hoped to have him participate in the West Coast writers guild event currently scheduled for April (I believe). Since we don't know how long he will stay in his position under the new administration is it possible to hold it in February instead since he will be in LA?

Also I have been in touch with the opioid survivor advocate who was on a panel with the SG at our Opioids meeting. She is willing to participate in the LA event as well as be listed as a SME resource in your database. What do you need from her to get into your database?

Wishing you both happy holidays!

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor
Division of Strategic Communications



hLogo_Final_Color

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200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

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Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

Sender:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
Recipient:	Armine M. Kourouyan <akourouy@usc.edu>; Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>; Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c4fdb2a19ad4755a5a8932dbf993ff4-Smith, Apri>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group

	(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Sent Date:	2017/02/22 09:14:11
Delivered Date:	2017/02/22 09:14:00

From:	Lemar, Naweed (OS/ASPA) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BDD222A2AC644600A7167233AF2271F8-LEMAR, NAWEE>
To:	OS - Nightly Report </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d846ad1b75b14263ab56046f271527b7-NightlyRepo>
Subject:	Nightly Report for Thursday, June 8, 2017
Date:	2017/06/07 17:02:07
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

HHS PRESS OFFICE NIGHTLY REPORT

Thursday, June 8, 2017

Press Releases

(NIH) “Neuroimaging technique may help predict autism among high-risk infants”

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/neuroimaging-technique-may-help-predict-autism-among-high-risk-infants>

Major Media Contacts

CDC

Gery Guy, PhD, health economist, DCPC, interviewed with HemOnc and Healio regarding Sunburns and ER visits.

Mary C. White, EARB, DCPC interviewed with Consumer Reports regarding pap test screening and women aged 65+.

CMS

David Lazarus of the LA Times asked about the rationale for overturning the regulation that prevented nursing-home patients and family members from being forced to arbitrate disputes. A CMS press officer shared the approved fact sheet.

Ann Brenoff of the Huffington Post believes that to be eligible for hospice care a patient needs to have a full-time caregiver and could not find that criteria in the Medicare site. She also asked if having a home is still one of the requirements. A CMS press officer worked with program team to provide her with clarifications and links to the Hospice eligibility manual and requirements.

Jim Houck, Visalia (Calif.) Times Delta, asked for the number of complaints filed in 2016 against the Tulare Regional Medical Center in Tulare, CA. The San Francisco Regional press officer sent him a link to a state survey agency website that provides such year-by-year data.

Amanda Valdes, KCOY-TV, Santa Maria, Calif., asked about a recent revisit survey of Lompoc Regional Medical Center in Lompoc, Calif. The CMS San Francisco Regional press officer told her that the 2567 report is not yet ready for public release.

The termination of a nursing home, NMS of Hagerstown, MD, on June 6 attracted media queries from a number of reporters and media outlets, including Julie Green, Herald-Mail, Hagerstown, MD; Jordan Rau, Kaiser Health News and Rachel Espaillat, WHAG, Hagerstown. Queries started Tuesday, June 6 and continued today, June 7. The Philadelphia Region Press Officer anticipates this will be an ongoing story.

Giuseppe Sabella, of Charleston Gazette, Charleston, WV, has submitted a series of questions related to a story he is working on about a drug treatment facility called New Beginnings, in Charleston. His questions revolve around the facility's status as a Medicare-participating provider, and the participation of specific doctors affiliated with the facility. The reporter has also filed a FOIA requesting information related to any denial or approval of the facility's application to participate in Medicare. Ongoing.

Sean Hamill, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, has questions related to CMS's June 2 directive to state survey agencies related to Legionella, and how healthcare facilities should have water management plans in place to prevent its spread. Specifically he asks why CMS issued the directive, what is the implication, and whether facilities that receive Medicare payments can lose federal funding if they did not adopt a water management plan to control Legionella. CMS Region 3 Press Officer is working with subject matter teams on a response

FDA

Patrick Mairs, Associated Press, seeking information to dispute claim that the agency has admitted DTaP vaccines cause autism for story seeking to debunk fake news being spread on Facebook. In progress. (LM)

Ashlee Kieler, Consumerist, requested information about why the recall establishment list changed on the hepatitis A tuna recall outbreak webpage. Reporter was provided a statement. (PC)

Ben Guarino, The Washington Post, requested attribution for quotes from a background interview he did with Dr. John Deeds, a marine toxicologist in the seafood safety program, on a study published in 2011 about the effects of palytoxin. (PC)

Kaitlyn Burton, Politico Pro, seeking clarification on source of feed mill inspection funding in FDA budget. (MF)

Cristin Flanagan, Bloomberg, with questions about a CAR-T under FDA review. (AF/AS)

Megan Thielking, Stat News, reached out to her on her item on LeadCare Test recall to explain that the action was part of the general recall announced by FDA last month. (DK)

Jennifer Maloney, Wall Street Journal, interviewed CTP Director Mitch Zeller on modified risk tobacco products. (MF)

SAMHSA

Amanda Oldt with Healio requested and received responses to written questions about the barometer data.

Julie Miller with Behavioral Healthcare Executive and Addiction Professional will interview Beth Han on Monday on the 2016 barometer.

Julia Lurie with Mother Jones will interview Beth Han Friday on the barometer and healthcare trends.

Brianna Ehly with Politico will interview Beth Han Thursday on the barometer and trends.

Steve Reinberg with HealthDay will interview Beth Han Thursday on the major findings and takeaways from the barometer.

Ari Daniel with PBS Nova is seeking an interview to discuss fentanyl-what it is, how it works, and why it's so lethal. We are arranging.

Haley Edwards with Time Magazine is seeking data regarding the expenditures to treat opioids in the U.S. We are researching.

Regional Outlets and Other Interviews and Background

CDC

Brenda Jacklitsch spoke with WSB-TV in Atlanta about the redesigned OSHA-NIOSH Heat Safety Tool app.

FDA

Jessie Johnson, KZIM 960 AM – Missouri, requested information about the Star Snacks voluntary recall of cashew halves and pieces due to potential presence of Glass. Reporter was referred to the company's recall notice and media contact. (PC)

Rachel Polansky, NBC 2 Fort Myer – Florida, requested information about FDA's regulations regarding the safety of home delivery meal kits. In progress. (PC)

Susan Darren, The Medical Letter, was provided clarifying information on personal importation of drugs. (LM)

Pat Beall, The Palm Beach Post, with questions about the regulatory history of OxyContin; in progress. (SP)

Teri Hansen, McPherson Sentinel (Kansas), was provided link to Hospira/Pfizer warning letter for manufacturing violations from February 2017. (LM)

Sara Chodosh, Popular Science, was asked to correct a recent article on medical device regulation. In progress. (SC)

Anette Breindl, BioWorld and Medical Device Daily, with a question about FDA's presentation on tissue-agnostic cancer drug approvals at ASCO. (AS)

Erin McCallister, BioCentury, interviewed FDA's Julia Beaver and Steven Lemery on-site at ASCO. (AS)

Donna Young, S&P Financial News, with questions about FDA's participation/presentations at ASCO. (AS)

Fabien Sandoval, Telemundo, came to tour OSEL 3-D printing and ultrasound labs and conduct background interviews for upcoming segments he's planning to shoot at the labs. (GS/DK)

SAMHSA

Sara Heath with PatientEngagementHIT.com is seeking an interview to discuss the barriers patients face when accessing mental health care. We are arranging.

V/R,

Naweed Lemar

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Direct: 202-690-6889

(b)(6)

Email: naweed.lemar@hhs.gov

Sender:	Lemar, Naweed (OS/ASPA) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BDD222A2AC644600A7167233AF2271F8-LEMAR, NAWEE>
Recipient:	OS - Nightly Report </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d846ad1b75b14263ab56046f271527b7-NightlyRepo>
Sent Date:	2017/06/07 17:01:28
Delivered Date:	2017/06/07 17:02:07

From:	Office on Womens Health <owh@service.govdelivery.com>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; <owh@palladianpartners.com>; <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	Courtesy Copy: April Digest: News You Can Use
Date:	2017/04/20 16:01:59
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

This is a courtesy copy of an email bulletin sent by Palladian Partners.

This bulletin was sent to the following groups of people:

Subscribers of The OWH Health Professional (30332 recipients)

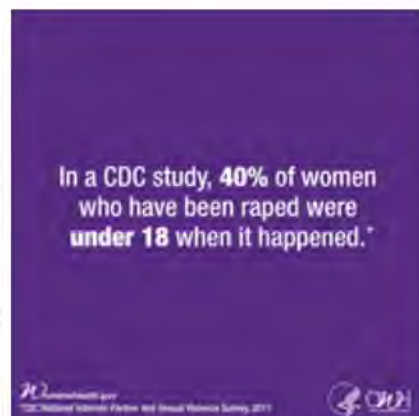


Main Header

News You Can Use

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Help your patients understand sexual assault by printing the HHS Office on Women's Health (OWH) [Sexual Assault fact sheet](#) for your office. Our partner American Academy of Pediatrics recently updated recommendations regarding teen sexual assault in the clinical report [Care for the Adolescent After an Acute Sexual](#)



In a CDC study, 40% of women who have been raped were

[Assault](#), published in March 2017.

under 18 when it happened.

OWH Continuing Professional Development

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Grand Rounds: “Addressing the Unique Challenges of Opioid Use Disorder in Women”

OWH and CDC developed a Grand Rounds session on opioid misuse in women; you can still [view the presentation](#) and gain continuing education credits. Be sure to also view “Beyond the Data,” a one-on-one interview with Mishka Terplan, M.D., M.P.H., FACOG, FASAM.

OWH National Meeting on Opioid Use, Abuse, &Overdose in Women

Check out our [panel discussion](#) from the OWH National Meeting on Opioid Use, Abuse, &Overdose in Women held in September 2016. It covers topics like reproductive health, abuse of fentanyl and heroin, and use of naloxone. The panel was facilitated by OWH Director of the Division of Strategic Communications Jennifer Bishop-Crawford, Sc.D., M.P.H.

What are your plans for this year’s National Women’s Health Week?

We are live! Dive into the [National Women’s Health Week website](#) and see what we have in store for you! Celebrate with us May 14–20, 2017. If you haven’t already ordered your health professional toolkit with sample social media messages, sample newsletter text, and links to helpful tools you can share with your patients, contact [Cheryl Thompson](#).

Funding Opportunity

The purpose of the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention funding is to provide partial support for specific non-federal conferences in the areas of health promotion, disease prevention information and education pro-grams, and applied research. Conferences supported under this program announcement must be specific to one or more of the following focus areas: HIV and AIDS, viral hepatitis, sexually transmitted diseases, tuberculosis, or adolescent health. [Applications](#) are due May 30, 2017.

“Putting Science to Work for the Health of Women Healthy Women Make Healthy Communities: Women as Makers”

Please join the NIH Office of Research on Women’s Health during National Women’s Health Week for the 2nd Annual Vivian Pinn Symposium on Wednesday, May 17, 2017, at 2 p.m. ET. Register [here](#).

Congenital Syphilis

Did you know that congenital syphilis is increasing in the United States? According to the CDC, women accounted for about one in 10 syphilis cases in 2015, or 2,298 total cases. The syphilis rate increased 27.3% among women 2014–2015. CDC has a [number of tools and resources](#) to protect women and pregnant patients.



Congenital syphilis is...

TAG Talks

The Office of Adolescent Health (OAH) announced the first two videos in a new series created as part of the Adolescent Health: Think, Act, Grow® (TAG) call to action. The video series is co-sponsored by OAH and the federal Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs. The video “[The Power of the Adolescent Brain](#)” reviews adolescent brain development and how it affects learning, health, and behavior.

For more updates, follow OWH on [Twitter](#).

Volume 1, Issue 3

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Did you get this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive Office on Women's Health updates.

Stay connected with us!

- [Womenshealth.gov](#)  [Twitter](#)  [facebook](#)
- OWH Helpline: 800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Sender:	Office on Womens Health <owh@service.govdelivery.com>
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Subject:	New Healthy Eating, Weight, and Physical Activity web content areas launched today!
Date:	2018/03/01 11:09:13
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Today the web team launched the new Healthy Eating, Healthy Weight, and Physical Activity pages on the website. These pages replace the Fitness and Nutrition content area and the Overweight and Obesity fact sheet. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns and thanks to Jenn for reviewing and approving this wealth of content!

- Getting Active: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/getting-active>
- Healthy Weight: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/healthy-weight>
- Healthy Eating: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/healthy-eating>

PS – Valerie – the current eating disorder fact sheets will be part of the new Mental Health content that should be launched in the next several weeks, so they are still mostly located through the [A-Z page](#) or the search bar.

Brooke Leggin, MPH

Web Manager



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

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Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
 Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=7D8177B2D8E041769BF3DDAB0103F6CE-LEGGIN, BRO>
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Subject:	Nightly Report for Wednesday, August 9, 2017
Date:	2017/08/08 17:00:35
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

HHS PRESS OFFICE NIGHTLY REPORT

Wednesday, August 9, 2017

Press Releases

(FDA) "FDA to expand public education campaign to focus on prevention of youth e-cigarette use"

<https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm570501.htm>

(NIH) "NIH accelerates the use of genomics in clinical care"

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-accelerates-use-genomics-clinical-care>

Major Media Contacts

CMS

Chris Weaver of the Wall Street Journal asked guidance or requirements for how hospitals when they discover that they or their staffs may have spread infectious diseases. He cites an IHS hospital found out two months ago that a staff podiatrist wasn't properly sterilizing equipment and may have transmitted infectious diseases to HIV and hepatitis, and only advised patients and the facility after a "bureaucratic" delay. The CMS press office is working with ASPA, CMS Survey & Certification teams to address conditions of participation or state /federal regulators' interpretation about how hospitals handle such incidents, and whether any other federal infectious disease reporting rules govern such conduct.

Melanie Schmitz of ThinkProgress is working on a story about arbitration agreements for nursing homes. Press officer sent the reporter the link to the fact sheet issued in June for CMS Issues Proposed Revision Requirements for Long-Term Care Facilities' Arbitration Agreements and let her know CMS will respond to public comments received when we issue a final rule.

Ina Jaffe, Correspondent for NPR News had some questions about the Hospice benefit, payment, and the number of Hospice Services provided over the years and live discharges. Also asked about the upcoming Hospice Compare rollout. The component provided information posted online and statistics posted in [CMS.gov](https://www.cms.gov)

Kansas City Star, Andy Marso Health Care Reporter, sent an inquiry asking for all public documents related to CMS' decision to stop covering patient visits in late 2014 or early 2015, to what is now known as the Pain Management Institutes of Mid-America Psychiatrists clinic. Region 7 Public Affairs Specialist is working with the Division of Financial Management and Fee-for-Service Operations (DFMFFSO) on what we can tell the reporter.

Jessica Rosenthal, FOX News, West Coast radio correspondent, Los Angeles, asked on what data the Marketplace issuer maps are based. She was provided with a statement on background.

Christina Jewitt, healthcare reporter for Kaiser Health News, is seeking information and the identity of two surgery centers in Florida, which were denied accreditation in 2013 of failing to meet health and safety standards. CMS Atlanta Region IV Press Officer asked non-LTC to research information sought by reporter.

J.D. Capelouto, crime and public safety reporter for the Atlanta Journal Constitution, is seeking CMS's policies or guidelines when the agency or state identifies and substantiates abuse, neglect or exploitation of Medicare beneficiaries during a survey of a nursing home, hospital, hospice etc. Region IV Press Officer is teaming with non-LTC and Enforcement to craft a response to the a series of questions submitted by Mr. Capelouto.

Christina Jewitt, healthcare reporter for Kaiser Health News, is seeking information and the identity of two surgery centers in Florida, which were denied accreditation in 2013 of failing to meet health and safety standards. Region IV Press Officer asked non-LTC to research information sought by reporter.

Victoria Colliver, Politico.com, San Francisco, asked for information about CMS waivers, saying she was doing a story on "what progressive/conservative states could do to advance their agendas in this new era." The San Francisco press officer sent her links to fact sheets about 1115 Medicaid and 1332 state innovation waivers, a list of recent Medi-Cal waivers (CA Medicaid), and a list of potential sources outside CMS.

FDA

Olivia Zaleski, Bloomberg; Anna Edney, Bloomberg; Olga Razumovskaya, Wall Street Journal; Rachel Spacek, LA Times; Chase Purdy, Quartz Magazine; Laura Northrup, Consumerist: requested comment about whether the FDA closed out an investigation into Hampton Creek products in relation to their removal from Target stores over health concerns. In progress. (PC)

Nicole Cvetnic, McClatchy, requested a fact check of basic retail food safety recommendations for a video they are producing. In progress. (PC)

David Pitt, Associate Press; Michael Stobbe, Associated Press; Laura Kelly, Washington Times: requested information about the papaya recalls and outbreak. Reporters were directed to the website and told the investigation was ongoing. (PC)

Maureen Conway, Fox News Edge, received link to press release on FDA to expand public education campaign to focus on prevention of youth e-cigarette use. (MF)

Erin Brodwin, Business Insider, was provided interview with Steven Tave on dietary supplement regulation and challenges. (LM)

Sheila Kaplan, New York Times, interviewed CTP Director Mitch Zeller on FDA's announcement on comprehensive regulatory plan to shift trajectory of tobacco-related disease, death. (MF/JR)

Maura Barrett, NBC News, requested information on counterfeit pet medications for pitch meeting. (JP)

David Pierson, LA Times; Megan Wollerton, CNET, requested information about the GRAS and the Impossible Burger. In progress. (MM)

Julie Thomson, Huffington Post, asked about use of term "natural" on stevia sweetener labels and foods in general. (DK)

Jennifer Maloney, Wall Street Journal, with questions on FDA's announcement on comprehensive regulatory plan to shift trajectory of tobacco-related disease, death. (MF)

HRSA

Modern Healthcare reporter Virgil Dickson asked why HRSA withdrew a rule that would have barred compensation for donors of stem cells acquired through apheresis.

IHS

Dan Frosch, Wall Street Journal, referred to IHS by CDC for information on Omaha Winnebago podiatry clinic incident. In progress.

NIH

Wall Street Journal's J.R. Whalen interviewed NIDA Deputy Director Dr. Wilson Compton, about opioid crisis.

PBS NewsHour's Catherine Wise interviewed Dr. Steven Krosnick, NIBIB, about pediatric cancer technologies.

Bloomberg BNA's David Schultz interviewed NIEHS Director Dr. Linda Birnbaum, about potential health effects of perfluorinated chemicals.

ONC

Mary Pratt, Medical Economics, asked ONC for information about health information exchanges for physicians. She was provided with links to the Health IT Playbook on HealthIT.gov.

Joe Goedert, Health Data Management, asked ONC about end-of-life registry funding to HIEs. He was told that ONC's HIE grants did not include funding targeted to end-of-life registries. We

suggested he go back to his source for additional information.

SAMHSA

Dominique Heckels with ITV News is seeking an interview regarding the scale of the opioid crisis in the United States. We are awaiting Department guidance.

Regional Outlets and Other Interviews and Background

ACF

Lynda Figueredo of WPEC (Fla.) was provided background information about the Child Maltreatment 2015 report.

Meghan Hoyer of the Associated Press (N.Y.) was provided background information about the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System for FY 2016.

Claire Taylor of the Lafayette Daily Advertiser (La.) was provided information concerning the operation of the local Head Start program being operated by a temporary management contractor.

CMS

J.D. Capelouto, crime and public safety reporter for the Atlanta Journal Constitution, is seeking CMS's policies or guidelines when the agency or state identifies and substantiates abuse, neglect or exploitation of Medicare beneficiaries during a survey of a nursing home, hospital, hospice etc. Region IV Press Officer is teaming with non-LTC and Enforcement to craft a response to the a series of questions submitted by Mr. Capelouto; inquiry pending.

Connie Dufner, editor of the Senior Living section of The Dallas Morning News, asked for a column explaining Medicare's prescription drug "extra help" program. The CMS Dallas regional press officer provided it.

Mary Shinn, reporter for The Durango Herald in Durango, Colo., asked for inspection reports for a number of Dallas area labs owned by Integrity Health Plus and its related companies. The CMS Dallas regional press officer is working with the Dallas Division of Survey and Certification to provide the requested material.

Steve Twedt, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, wanted to find out which Medicare Advantage and Medicare Part D plans are currently offered in Southwestern Pennsylvania. He was provided with a link to a data source from the CMS website.

Steve Twedt, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, asked if CMS can elaborate on the reasoning for combining of generic and brand name drugs under Tier 3 classification in the 2017 call letter to Part D and MAPD plans. He stated that what's changed is that generics that have traditionally been Tier 1 are now showing up in Tier 3, and he wants to explain to his readers why the change was made. He wants to know if he can say that CMS is allowing the hybrid tier because the rising cost of generics is effectively blurring the line, price-wise, between generics and branded drugs. PAO is waiting on a response from subject matter folks.

Alex Khan, from the Worcester Sun, contacted CMS looking for information on the 5-star rating system and specific data on Massachusetts hospitals. A CMS Boston Regional Press Officer provided the reporter with links to publicly available information that answered his questions and explained how to access the data.

Liz Kowalczyk, from The Boston Globe, asked for 2016 survey results on any ambulatory surgical centers in Massachusetts. The Boston CMS Regional Office is providing all releasable 2567s.

Emma Platoff, reporter for The Texas Tribune in Austin, asked about the current status of Texas' request for Medicaid funding for its women's health program. The regional press officer worked with the Dallas Division of Medicaid and Children's Health Operations to provide a response.

John Kennedy, reporter for WFSU-TV (Public Television) in Tallahassee, FL, asked about CMS' approval of the Florida Medicaid Demonstration Program. The regional press officer provided a copy of the press release.

Lydia Wheeler, Staff Writer, Federal Regulations, The Hill newspaper contacted CMS about the proposed revisions to arbitration agreement requirements for long-term care facilities. She says some consumer groups claim CMS lacks the statutory authority to reverse this rule. CMS Press let her know that we will respond to public comments received when we issue a final rule and that a discussion of our statutory authority is set forth in the proposed rule at 82 FR 26651.

Bryan Thompson, Rural Health and Agriculture Reporter, Kansas News Service sent an inquiry asking if CMS sees a downside to new legislation introducing a bipartisan bill to improve access to dialysis facilities. The bill would streamline Medicare accreditation for dialysis centers. The reporter wanted to know if CMS fears it will lead to an over-expansion of facilities, and drive up costs in the Medicare program, or will it just make life easier for patients who are already being served, but having to drive long distances for dialysis? Region 7 Public Affairs Specialist responded that CMS does not comment on pending legislation.

Allison Kite Statehouse reporter, The Topeka Capital-Journal asked for the letters/documents between CMS and the Kansas State Survey Agency regarding Osawatomie State Hospital's May recertification survey. The reporter also asked if Osawatomie failed this initial survey as she is aware they had a list of deficiencies and will get a second survey. Region 7 Public Affairs Specialist responded by giving the reporter the Statement of Deficiencies from the May survey, and told her that since the initial survey, was unsuccessful, no Plan of Correction was solicited. The reporter was also given the next steps for the facility if they are still seeking CMS certification, including they can request another survey but if they successfully pass that one they will still have to sustain compliance for a reasonable assurance period before getting certified.

Karen Bouffard from the Detroit News inquired about why The JC surveyed Harper University Hospital in Detroit on July 25-28 and if CMS also surveyed it. CMS has not conducted a recent survey.

Alissa Widman Neese from the Columbus Dispatch sent an inquiry regarding the possible closure of Bryden Place nursing home and if it has been revoked from Medicare.

The involuntary termination of this facility was the subject of an internal CQISCO memo and the OL has been briefed due to multiple Congressional inquiries. We were able to give the reporter releasable documents and a statement.

Kristen Consillio, Honolulu Star-Advertiser, asked for the proposed 2018 Marketplace rates for Hawaii, as well as average subsidy payments for Hawaii subscribers. Links provided.

Polo Rocha from Wisconsin Politics wrote inquiring about when rate filings would be available for review on Healthcare.gov. They are scheduled to be released later today.

Kristen Schorsch from Crain's Chicago wants to confirm that the new information on the Healthcare.gov Rate Review page is only proposed rate hikes, not actual, and if they apply to all plans or only those on the exchange.

The CMS Dallas regional press officer produced a column on Medicare beneficiaries' rights and protections and distributed it to weekly, senior-oriented, African-American community and faith-based publications in Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

Lauren Cross from the Northwest Indiana Times inquired if CMS/HHS would be open to expanding "Medicare for All" (believed to be Medicaid bit confirming) for a Superfund site in East Chicago, IN where residents have been exposed to high levels of lead and arsenic for decades and have experienced higher rates of miscarriage, infant deaths, cancer, and other health ailments. Her deadline is Monday. CMS Denver Regional press office team asked their HHS counterparts in the Region to respond to this inquiry; CMS RO team in Denver will assist as needed.

Alina Machado, Consumer Reporter for WTVJ-NBC6 South Florida, is investigating a potential consumer fraud issue in which a consumer claims that someone cashed in two different states Medicare Part D checks purportedly issued by CMS in her daughter's name. The consumer told the reporter that she was told Medicare Part B does not issue checks – that any refunds/credits would go through Social Security. Additionally, she says her daughter does not receive any benefits from Medicare. The checks were issued by NGS and can be viewed at MTN 431967- 4 checks April-May, 2017 total \$7,718.10. Upon a review from Program Integrity, Region IV Press Officer shared the following: Medicare Administrative Contractors can issue a check if an eligible (1490) beneficiary claim is submitted, and the patient paid for services. In this case, further investigation is warranted.

Cindy St Clair, Producer, Get Gephardt (Investigative reporter), KUTV 2 News, Salt Lake City, UT inquired about short term-limited duration insurance and coverage requirements for pre-existing conditions. I informed the producer that ACA insurance market protections do not apply to these types of policies, and sent her the Tri-Department Final Rural Summary (December 30, 2016) to make her aware of the additional consumer/risk pool protections put into place. I also contacted the Wyoming Insurance Department due to allegations of misrepresentation.

Rebecca Rider, reporter for The Salisbury Post in Salisbury, NC; David Whisenant, reporter for WBTV-TV (CBS) in Charlotte, NC; and Mike Stolp, producer for WSOC-TV (ABC) in Charlotte, NC., asked about the termination notice given The Brian Center in Salisbury, NC. The regional press officer provided the requesting journalists with a copy of the enforcement letter sent to the facility.

FDA

Eric Lenhardt, Gigabit magazine, with request to interview FDA CIO. In progress (SC)

William Joy, WAVE 3 News Kentucky; Kyland Jackson, WFPL Louisville: requested information about a potential recall from Comfy Cow Ice Cream over health concerns. Reporters were referred to the company. (PC)

Marshall Bright, Refinery29, requested an interview about buying fresh fish. In progress. (PC)

Michael Cohen, South Magazine, requested information on raw milk uses. The reporter was referred to FDA's website.

Sue Doherty, Alhurra Television, and Kevin Kunzmann, MD Magazine, received link to Statement from FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb, M.D., on National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine report on pain management and prescription opioid abuse. (MF)

Ike Swetlitz, STAT News, and Daniel Mollenkamp, ECigIntelligence, with questions on press release on FDA to expand public education campaign to focus on prevention of youth e-cigarette use. (MF)

Marianne McGee, Healthcare Info Security, with questions about DHS alert regarding cybersecurity vulnerabilities Siemens molecular imaging products. In progress. (AS)

Michele Manchir, ADA News, confirmed information on drug shortages website for nitrous oxide is that most up-to-date information the agency has. (LM)

William Lo, HK01.com (Hong Kong), asked if product claiming to be FDA approved actually is. Referred to Drugs@FDA and guidance on regulation of alternative medicine. (LM)

David Martin Davies, Texas Public Radio, seeking information on selling blood plasma. In progress. (LM)

Danny Al-Faruque, Medtech Insight, with questions about IRB waiver guidance. In progress. (LSD)

Jim Dickinson, FDA Webview, requested information stemming from an Untitled Letter sent to Darwin Life. Referred to letter. (AF)

Malcolm Spicer, Pink Sheet, with questions about FDA's planned webinar on OTC monograph reform/user fees. In development. (AF/TG)

Jessica Leeder, Today's Parent Magazine, with follow-up question for an article on domperidone. (AF)

Eliana Block, WUSA 9 (DC), received information on sunscreen and infants. (AF)

Cheryl Grant, Women's Health, with questions about chewing gum base. In progress. (MM)

Ken Brown, FOX 19 (Cincinnati) asked about use of term genetic engineering on food labels. Referred him to USDA. (DK)

Jordan Mamome, Rachael Ray, Everyday living magazine, requested fact-check for story on nutrition facts label. Provided. (DK)

Ken Davis, Hanover Consumer Cooperative Society blogger, asked for update on use of term "natural" on food labels. Provided. (DK)

Anne Staylor, BioMedGPS, was provided link to recently approved medical devices webpage. (SC)

David Fillmore, MedTech Insight, with questions about recent PMA approvals. In progress. (SC/TE)

HRSA

WTVJ (FL) reporter Arlene Borenstein asked for information on poisonous snake bite and vitamin toxicity, and was referred to her local area Poison Control Center.

IHS

Nicole Ebat, Fox 42 News KPTM, in Omaha, NE, requested an update on the Omaha Winnebago podiatry clinic incident. In progress.

NIH

MedicalResearch.com's Marie Benz, MedPage Today's Salynn Boyles, Bloomberg's John Tozzi, and Reuters' Andrew Seaman interviewed Dr. Bridget Grant, NIAAA, about high-risk drinking and alcohol use disorder in U.S.

Journal Toxicologic Pathology's Susan Elmore interviewed Dr. Michelle Cora, NIEHS, about Black Cohosh Study.

Vox's Julia Belluz interviewed NIH Associate Director of Science Policy Dr. Carrie D. Wolinetz, about question on back pain and burden of disease.

Diane Rehm: On My Mind's Diane Rehm interviewed NIH Director Dr. Francis Collins, about NIH, biomedical research.

Time, Inc's Brigid Sweeney interviewed NIAAA Director Dr. George Koob, about science of alcohol dependence.

Journal of the National Cancer Institute's Mike Fillon interviewed Dr. Donna Baird, NIEHS, about health impacts of hair care products.

V/R,

Naweed Lemar

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Direct: 202-690-6889

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Email: naweed.lemar@hhs.gov

Sender:	Lemar, Naweed (OS/ASPA) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BDD222A2AC644600A7167233AF2271F8-LEMAR, NAWEE>
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From:	Office on Womens Health <owh@service.govdelivery.com>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
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Date:	2017/03/10 09:02:37
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note



Main Header

How Will You Put Your #BestDefense Into Play Today?



National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

Today, people all across the United States are joining together to observe [National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day](#) and help shed light on the impact of HIV and AIDS on women and girls. With this year's theme, **"The Best Defense Is a Good Offense,"** the Office on Women's Health wants to empower women and girls to protect their sexual health, engage in healthy relationships, and put their best defense into play.

Here's what you can do today to join us:

- • Learn how [women](#) and [girls](#) can lower their risk of getting HIV.
- • Join the NWGHAAD [Thunderclap](#) before 12:00 p.m. ET. Adding your voice allows us to reach women and girls across the country!
- • Share [encouraging words](#) from our 2017 ambassadors.
- • Read how our ambassadors [fight against the stigma of HIV](#) and [stand with HIV-positive women](#).
- • Learn more about NWGHAAD with our [fact sheet](#).
- • Find [ideas](#) to observe NWGHAAD in your community.
- • Use **#NWGHAAD** and **#BestDefense** on social media to talk about how you are protecting yourself and others from HIV.

For more information, visit the National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day [website](#).

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Did you get this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive Office on Women's Health updates.

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- • [Womenshealth.gov](#)  [Twitter](#)  [facebook](#)
- • OWH Helpline: 800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

This email was sent to valerie.scardino@hhs.gov using GovDelivery, on behalf of: The Office on Women's Health (OWH) - 200 Independence Avenue - Washington, DC 20201 - 202-690-7650

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Recipient:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Sent Date:	2017/03/10 09:01:44
Delivered Date:	2017/03/10 09:02:37

From:	Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=AC73A58EE24044BC98C4DD74E24D8740-PHENIX, ADR>
To:	Laura Koehler <lkoehler@hagerssharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
CC:	Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>
Subject:	RE: NWHW/Lupus Foundation of America Meeting Minutes
Date:	2017/04/06 15:00:45
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hey Laura,

I'm sorry for the confusion, I think the standard language may be a little unclear. We cannot include their resource on the website. The current format only lists organizations, and we have included the Lupus Foundation of America. We update the content on our websites on an ongoing basis, but we cannot accept non-federal resources.

I hope that makes more sense. Please let me know if you have additional questions.

AP

From: Laura Koehler [mailto:lkoehler@hagerssharp.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 2:45 PM
To: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH); Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH)
Subject: RE: NWHW/Lupus Foundation of America Meeting Minutes

Hi Adrienne,

Thank you for the explanation. I will pass this along to the Lupus Foundation. Based on the conversations we've had with them, I anticipate that they may be curious to know when the page will be formally updated and who to reach out to at that time. Can you provide additional guidance so that I can be prepared to answer if they ask?

Thanks!
Laura

From: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) [mailto:Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 06, 2017 2:40 PM
To: Laura Koehler <lkoehler@hagerssharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) <Ann.Abercrombie@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW/Lupus Foundation of America Meeting Minutes

Hi Laura,

Please thank them for sharing this resource with us. Unfortunately, we cannot accept or promote submissions for inclusion on our websites. During the regular, ongoing process of updating our health information, we include the latest federal government resources and, as appropriate, nonprofit resources for our users.

I hope this helps.

Thanks,

Adrianne

From: Laura Koehler [<mailto:lkoehler@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 4:15 PM
To: Phenix, Adrianne (HHS/OASH); Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan
Subject: RE: NWHW/Lupus Foundation of America Meeting Minutes

Hi Valerie and Adrianne,

The Lupus Foundation of America followed up with another request. They inquired as to whether their new resource, the [National Resource Center on Lupus](#), can be included in the "More information here" section on the [WH.gov lupus fact sheet](#) in addition to the Lupus Foundation's main website.

Please let us know how you would like us to proceed.

Thanks!
Laura

From: Phenix, Adrianne (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Adrianne.Phenix@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 3:14 PM
To: Laura Koehler <lkoehler@hagerssharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW/Lupus Foundation of America Meeting Minutes

Oh thanks for the reminder, Laura! Yes, these are approved.

AP

From: Laura Koehler [<mailto:lkoehler@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 2:59 PM
To: Phenix, Adrianne (HHS/OASH); Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH)
Subject: RE: NWHW/Lupus Foundation of America Meeting Minutes

Hi Adrianne,

Thanks for getting back to us. This explanation is very helpful as we navigate our discussions with partners who ask about social media promotions.

Did you have a chance to review the Lupus Foundation meeting minutes? If so, please let us know if you have edits.

Thanks!
Laura

From: Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH) [<mailto:Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov>]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 1:13 PM
To: Laura Koehler <lkoehler@hagerssharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) <Candace.Marshall@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: NWHW/Lupus Foundation of America Meeting Minutes

Hi Laura,

Valerie and I were both in meetings during this call last week, our apologies for being unable to join.

Regarding OWH's social media sharing guidelines, you are correct. We do not and cannot share, endorse, review or promote non-federal content, products, services, etc. There have been cases in the past that OWH has shared federally funded or OWH funded content, such as *text4baby* or *It's on Us*. This question came up during NWGHAAD as well, and I want to make sure we are not offering an option to share or promote anything on our websites or SM channels in exchange for their partnership. For NWHW, we ask partners to share NWHW messages, graphics and content with their networks to help us increase our reach. We do not and cannot offer to share or RT their messages or content in exchange for their partnership. We can, however, add their logo to our partner page (which is covered by a disclaimer that we do not endorse private organizations, or products or content of those organizations in support of the observance). At most, we can talk with Candace about sending a "thank you" tweet to all of our NWHW partners. I would prefer not to mention this option until we finalize that with Candace.

I hope this helps. Please let me know if you all have questions.

Adrienne

From: Laura Koehler [<mailto:lkoehler@hagerssharp.com>]
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 4:24 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Phenix, Adrienne (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Allison Hall-Jordan
Subject: NWHW/Lupus Foundation of America Meeting Minutes

Hi Valerie and Adrienne,

Attached are notes from this afternoon's conversation with the Lupus Foundation of America. Please let us know if you have questions as you review.

Adrienne, they were really curious to learn more about OWH's guidelines for sharing/reposting content for non-federal resources. They asked us if OWH could retweet a tweet if it was relevant to NWHW. We said

that OWH is only able to share other federal resources, but they were wondering if we could provide them with OWH's social media sharing guidelines. Is that something you can help us with? We want to make sure we get the wording/phrasing right.

Thanks!
Laura

LAURA KOEHLER MPH

Account Coordinator

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cid:93B7D1FE-08F5-4DDC-BEBC-195D74AED88E

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Recipient:	Laura Koehler <lkoehler@hagerssharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>; Allison Hall-Jordan <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>
Sent Date:	2017/04/06 15:00:44
Delivered Date:	2017/04/06 15:00:45

From:	Lemar, Naweed (OS/ASPA) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BDD222A2AC644600A7167233AF2271F8-LEMAR, NAWEE>
To:	OS - Nightly Report </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d846ad1b75b14263ab56046f271527b7-NightlyRepo>
Subject:	Nightly Report for Thursday, May 25, 2017
Date:	2017/05/24 17:01:08
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

HHS PRESS OFFICE NIGHTLY REPORT

Thursday, May 25, 2017

Press Releases

N/A

Major Media Contacts

ACF

Maria Sachetti of the Washington Post (D.C.) asked about refugee resettlement and was referred to the State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration for additional information.

AHRQ

Dina Fine Maron of Scientific American contacted Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP) technical assistance with questions about stroke risk data. We provided her with data from our HCUP database and are following up with additional information.

Cindy Haines of HealthDay, Amy Herman of NEJM's Physician's Journal Watch, and Janel Miller of Healio requested the embargoed materials on the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force's draft recommendation statement on Screening for Adolescent Idiopathic Scoliosis. They were provided the materials.

CDC

Benjamin Wallace-Wells, The New Yorker – interviewed Philip Peters (DHAP) about CDC's role in the 2015 HIV outbreak in Indiana among people who inject drugs.

Dr. Anne Schuchat, Acting CDC Director, spoke with Devex reporter Adva Saldinger at the World Health Assembly polio side-event about eradicating polio.

Barbara Knust talked to Voice of America about Ebola virus and the outbreak in Democratic Republic of Congo.

CMS

CMS press officers fielded inquiries from national news outlets on a joint law enforcement action taken by the SEC, Department of Justice, and HHS' Office of Inspector General involving a current employee and a former CMS employee on alleged insider trading charges. Reporters with the Wall Street Journal, CNBC, Law 360 asked for a CMS comment and details on related employment histories. The CMS press office, working with HHS and CMS leadership, conveyed "no comment" following agency protocol on personnel matters and the status of the investigation. We directed requests to the appropriate federal law enforcement agencies.

Christopher Weaver of the Wall Street Journal asked about the status of CMS 2567 inspection reports for a Indian Health Service (IHS) hospital facility in Pine Ridge, South Dakota. IHS Pine Ridge Hospital in South Dakota surveyed by CM. A CMS press officer clarified that the document holding a statement of deficiencies is only releasable after CMS receives -- and accepts -- a Plan of Correction from the hospital. At the time of the request, the approval of the Pine Ridge plan was pending.

FDA

Susan Scutti, CNN, and Michael Crupain, The Dr. Oz Show, received link to FDA website regarding marijuana. (MF)

Toni Clarke and Duff Wilson, Reuters; Jennifer Maloney, Wall Street Journal; Jenny Kaplan, Bloomberg; John Reid Blackwell, Richmond (Va.) Times-Dispatch, Richard Craver, Winston-Salem (N.C.) Journal; and Jim Myers, ECigIntelligence, received CTP email on filing of Philip Morris' modified risk tobacco applications. (MF)

Tom Burton, WSJ, provided generic drug application workload totals and testimony on GDUFA that explains the progress of the generic drug program. (SW)

Erin Biba, BBC.com, requested an interview on antibiotic resistance as it relates to antibiotic use in animal agriculture for BBC's annual series on the eight biggest challenges the world is facing right now. In progress. (JP)

Beth Wang, Inside Health Policy, asking for more details about the Commissioner's Opioid Policy Steering Committee; shared information from the FDA-wide email and blog. (SP)

Beth Snyder Bulik, FiercePharma, asking about the FDA's untitled letter to the manufacturer of the weight loss drug Contrave for its DTC TV ads that did not disclose appropriate risk information; in progress. (SP)

Leticia Miranda, BuzzFeed, received link to FDA website on tobacco regulation. (MF)

Lenny Bernstein, Washington Post, received link to orphan drug designation database in relation to story about Epidiolex. (MF)

Michael Cipriano, Pink Sheet; Lucie Ellis, Scrip Intelligence; Paul Goldberg, The Cancer Letter; Mark Sherman, The Pink Sheet; Sue Sutter, The Pink Sheet; Conor Hale, FDA News; Manasi Vaidya, BioPharm Insight; Jamie Polychrones, Clarivate Analytics; Matt Herper, Forbes; Cristin

Flanagan, Bloomberg; Adam Feuerstein, TheStreet; Erin McCallister, BioCentury; John Carroll, Endpoints News; Lynne Peterson, Trends in Medicine; Beth Wang, Inside Health Policy; attended in person or via webcast today's Oncologic Drugs Advisory Committee meeting where committee members were asked to consider neratinib and L-glutamine powder. (AS)

Nichole Marks, CBS/60 Minutes, seeking interview on gene-editing technologies. In progress. (LM)

SAMHSA

Timothy Williams with New York Times requested information on past or current drug use among incarcerated people. He was referred to DOJ.

Regional Outlets and Other Interviews and Background

CMS

Tony Fong (Genome Web/360Dx) is working on a story about Protecting Access to Medicare Act (PAMA) of 2014 implementation and asked for CMS comment on the data collection process at this point and about any consideration being given to moving the implementation date back from Jan. 1, 2018. A press officer explained that CMS adopted the January 1, 2018 implementation date for the new Clinical Lab Fee Schedule (CLFS) private payor rate-based system through rulemaking. Any changes to this implementation date would require proposed and final rule making. The press officer referred the reporter to additional information on the CLFS PAMA Regulations website.

H.G. Reza, San Diego Reader, asked several questions about Medicare benefits for American retirees living in Mexico. The CMS San Francisco press officer sent him a fact sheet indicating that Medicare coverage abroad is very limited.

Greta Mart, news director at radio station KCBX-FM, San Luis Obispo, Calif., asked for a copy of the latest survey report for Lompoc Valley Medical Center in Lompoc, Calif. Mart was referred to regional document release coordinator for a copy.

Paula Hertel, The Hertel Report, Phoenix, Arizona, asked several questions about CMS's suspension of Cigna's Medicare Advantage products in the state. Checking.

Marni Usheroff, Cedars Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, asked two questions regarding updates to CMS requirements for long-term care facilities. Answered.

Jim Houck, Visalia (Calif.) Times Delta, asked more follow-up questions about recent surveys of the Tulare Regional Medical Center in Tulare, Calif. Answered.

Amanda Valdes, KCOY-TV, Santa Maria, Calif., asked about a recent survey of Lompoc Regional Medical Center in Lompoc, Calif. She was referred to the regional documents release coordinator for a copy of the survey report and cover letter.

Paul Sisson, San Diego Union Tribune, asked several questions about diabetes mortality rates and ESRD staffing levels. Unable to respond in time for his deadline.

Freelancer Christine Biederman asked for details held in a Report to Congress that looks at CMS' work and recovery of certain conditional payments from applicable Non-Group Health Plan (NGHP) operations that have primary payment responsibility. Biederman is interested in specific data on recoveries for FY 2015 and FY 2014, as well as mandatory reporting requirements. A CMS press officer shared that the Report is not yet public.

FDA

Wilhelmina Thijssen, de Volkskrant (Dutch newspaper), seeking comment on a study about cigarette filter ventilation. Provided general response on studies. (MF)

Jacquelyn Schlabach, Consumers Digest, provided information about the newly approved drug Radicava for ALS. (SW)

Sony Salzman, freelance book author, provided information about the GDUFA regulatory science research grants. (SW)

Daren Sukhram, 5 Witness News Minneapolis, asked for state-by-state breakdown of HeartWare recall. Unable to provide. (SC)

Fabian Sandoval, Telemundo, requested an on camera lab tour of 3-D printing lab and high intensity ultrasound lab for upcoming stories on innovation at FDA. In progress. (GS/DK)

Derrick Gingery, Pink Sheet, with questions on ANDA approval estimates in the FY18 budget Congressional Justification. In progress. (MF)

Brett Norman, Politico, and David Lim, Inside Health Policy, with questions on FDA's FY18 budget request. (MF)

HRSA

BabyCenter.com writer Karen Miles was told public banks distributed more than 8,000 cord blood collections for research in 2016, and more than 62,000 between 2007 and 2016.

SAMHSA

Allison Insinger with ADAW requested and received information on the cascade model of care for a story to run in the next two weeks.

V/R,

Naweed Lemar

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Direct: 202-690-6889

(b)(6)

Email: naweed.lemar@hhs.gov

Sender:	Lemar, Naweed (OS/ASPA) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BDD222A2AC644600A7167233AF2271F8-LEMAR, NAWEE>
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Subject:	Nightly Report for Monday, January 9, 2017
Date:	2017/01/06 17:01:39
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

HHS PRESS OFFICE NIGHTLY REPORT

Monday, January 9, 2017

Press Releases

N/A

Major Media Contacts

AHRQ

Marie Benz of MedicalResearch.com requested an embargoed interview on the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force's final recommendation statement on Folic Acid Supplementation for the Prevention of Neural Tube Defects. Her request is pending.

Lori Jane Gilha of Rocky Mountain PBS requested data on babies born with THC in their blood. We informed the reporter that there is no ICDncode associated specifically for this condition.

CDC

Dr. Dmitry Kissin (DRH) and Dr. Sheree Boule (DRH) interviewed with STAT News regarding Assisted Reproductive Technology Surveillance.

CDR Aimee Treffiletti, USPHS, Chief, Vessel Sanitation Program interviewed with LA Times on cruise-related illnesses.

Cindy Hines (NIOSH), Lead author of study interviewed with CNN on BPA levels in workers.

CMS

Meg Bryant (Healthcare Dive) is working on an article stemming from the OIG's report on CMS' management of the Quality Payment Program and asked if CMS could comment on the concerns that were raised about a lack of back-end IT infrastructure. Specifically, how will this affect MACRA implementation and what does it say about the need for a strong IT infrastructure in healthcare operations going forward in 2017? What is CMS doing to address the OIG's concerns and ensure the website will be able to receive physician-submitted data? A press officer responded, on background, and highlighted that the main takeaway from the OIG in this report

was that CMS has made significant progress towards implementing the Quality Payment Program. The reporter was also referred to the formal CMS comments at the end of the report.

FDA

Ed Silverman, Pharmalot/STAT News and Beth Snyder Bulik, Fierce Pharma; with questions about the proposed research on “Consumer and Healthcare Professional Identification of and Responses to Deceptive Prescription Drug Advertising,” provided background from the FR Notice. (SP)

Andrew Siddons, CQ, pointed to staff manual guide for questions about acting commissioner following Jan. 20 transition. (JR)

Abraham Riesman, New York magazine, seeking interview on marijuana addiction. Deferred to NIDA. (MF)

Alison Moodie, The Guardian, with questions about ADUFA summary reports. Provided written information. (JP)

Katie Thomas, New York Times, requested information/confirmation of an IND from Innate Immunotherapeutics. FDA can only comment on approved products. (AF)

NIH

BBC World Service’s Anna Lacey interviewed Dr. Elaine A. Ostrander, NHGRI, about The genetic basis of various dog breeds.

Bloomberg Businessweek’s Ira Boudway interviewed Dr. Jessica Gill, NINR, about biomarker in blood may help predict recovery time for sports concussions.

ONC

Sarah Klein, Prevention magazine, contacted ONC with questions about consumers and health IT. She is scheduled to interview Lana Moriarty next week.

SAMHSA

Kelly Birch with the Washington Post sought and received additional data on the no. of residential mental health facilities in the nation.

Margaret Talbot with New Yorker Magazine will interview Dr. Anita Everett next Thursday on consultation she did with a WV sheriff who is trying to address generational trauma as a way of also addressing the opioid problem in his county.

Regional Outlets and Other Interviews and Background

ACF

The Morgantown Dominion Post (W.Va.) was provided the amounts of funding awarded to Head Start programs in the state for all-day, all-year services.

CMS

Lisa Chedekel of Conn. Health I-Team contacted the Boston Regional Office with questions regarding CMS plans to implement the Skilled Nursing Facility 30-Day All-Cause Readmission Measure. The reporter's questions were answered with information received from the D.C. Press Office.

Nancy Kirsch a freelance writer for the Providence Business News had data-related questions regarding the Hospital-Acquired Condition Reduction Program. She was provided a Fact Sheet, FAQs and links to CMS websites with relevant data.

Shay Castle, Business Reporter, Boulder (CO) Daily Camera, emailed questions regarding Medicare coverage of the CyberKnife™ procedure, after getting conflicting information about it. Answered.

FDA

Josh Long, Natural Products Insider, with questions on cannabidiol as a dietary supplement. (MF)

José Vasquez, FDA News, questions about Califf's departure and acting commissioner. (JR)

Natalie Jacewicz, Distillations, with follow-up questions about import rules on ozone generating devices. Provided FDA website on importing medical products. (SC)

Paul Muschick, The Morning Call (Allentown, PA), asking about the marketing practices of Insys pharmaceuticals for the fentanyl product, Subsys; response in progress. (SP)

Darshan Mehta, ET Now, seeking information on import alerts. In progress. (LM)

Desiree Miller, NatCom Global, seeking information on collagen supplements. In progress. (LM)

Zachary Brennan, RAPS, was provided information on mammography quality record retention regulations. (SC)

Hannah Crowley, Americatastekitchen.com, asked whether feta cheese had a standard of identity. Told it does not. (DK)

Nicole Erwin, Ohio Valley ReSource/ WKMS News, with questions about the Veterinary Feed Directive final rule. Developing written responses. (JP)

Scott Kathan, Cook's Illustrated, asked whether expeller-pressed canola oil needs to be listed as such on the label. (DK)

Joseph Marks, Nextgov, with questions about FDA's website not being encrypted per OMB policy. In progress. (SC)

HRSA

Kathleen Wilson of the Ventura County Star was given information about HRSA grants for Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Awards made in 2014.

NIH

InfoTrak's Randy Meyer and Reuters TV's Sarah Irwin interviewed NIAID Director Dr. Anthony Fauci, about peanut allergy prevention guidelines.

MedicalEconomics.com's Leah Lawrence interviewed Dr. Madhumita Sinha, NIDDK, about diabetes screening in children.

America's Blood Centers newsletter's Lisa Spinelli interviewed Dr. Traci Mondoro, NHLBI, about pathogen reduction treated platelets.

TruTV's Natalie Shure interviewed Dr. Kevin Hall, NIDDK, about metabolism + obesity.

Multiple outlets interviewed Dr. Sherry Ansher, Dr. Jeff Abrams, Dr. Jason Cristofaro and Dr. James Doroshov, NCI, about NCI Formulary Launch & Cancer Moonshot.

GEO magazine's Martin Schlak interviewed Dr. Gwynne Jenkins, All of Us Research Program, about All of Us Research Program and genomics.

Valley Public Radio's Kerry Klein interviewed Dr. Freya Kamel, NIEHS, about health effects of the herbicide paraquat.

Newstalk 1010's Ed Elyahky interviewed NIAID Director Dr. Anthony Fauci, about HPTN 083.

NPR Shots Blog's Katherine Hobson (freelancer) interviewed Dr. James L. Mills, NICHD, about Folic acid editorial.

ONC

Karen Shakerdge, WXXI radio in Rochester, asked ONC if it had a report on electronic Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment forms. She was provided with last year's hospital adoption data brief which includes advance directives (e.g. DNR). DNRs are a component of the Comprehensive EHR definition. So, in 2015 about 40% of hospitals possessed the capability for advance directives.

SAMHSA

Pat Beall with the Palm Beach Post is interested in interviewing Dr. Kimberly Johnson regarding steps being taken to address the epidemic of heroin deaths.

V/R,

Naweed Lemar

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Direct: 202-690-6889

Mobile: 202-815-9968

Email: naweed.lemar@hhs.gov

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Delivered Date:	2017/01/06 17:01:39

From:	Bulletin Intelligence <HHS@BulletinIntelligence.com>
To:	<HHS@bulletinintelligence.com>
Subject:	HHS News Briefing for Wednesday, March 08, 2017
Date:	2017/03/08 07:38:09
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

HHS NEWS BRIEFING

This document and searchable archives are available at hhs.bulletinintelligence.com.

TO: THE SECRETARY AND SENIOR STAFF

DATE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2017 7:30 AM EST

TODAY'S TABLE OF CONTENTS

LEADING THE NEWS:

- + [Conservative Republicans Strongly Criticizing House GOP's ACA Replacement Bill.](#)

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- + [Price Discusses Conservatives' Opposition To GOP's ACA Repeal Bill During Interview.](#)
- + [Price Touts ACA Repeal Bill During Interview.](#)
- + [ACA Repeal Bill Expected To Impact Low-Income People, Hospitals.](#)
- + [Pence, Price Meet With GOP Opponents Of ACA Repeal Bill.](#)
- + [Casino Industry Urges Congress, HHS Secretary To Continue Recognition Of Gambling Disorders.](#)

HHS IN THE NEWS:

- + [Senate May Vote This Week On Verma For CMS.](#)
- + [Congressional Democrats Ask HHS To Push For More Access To Genetic Tests.](#)
- + [Fauci, Bekker: Women Are Leading HIV Research.](#)
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- + [Approximately 25% Of US Adults Have Arthritis, CDC Says.](#)
- + [CDC Budget In Peril As Lawmakers Propose Cutting The Prevention And Public Health Fund.](#)
- + [Insufficient Evidence Exists On Necessity For Routine Pelvic Screening Exams For Healthy Women, USPSTF Says.](#)

HEALTH REFORM:

- + [GOP Leaders Attempting To Garner Support For ACA Repeal Measure.](#)
- + [Sen. Graham Recommends That GOP Slow Down ACA Repeal Process.](#)
- + [GOP Governors Say ACA Repeal Bill Would Lead To Loss Of Coverage For Millions, Or Higher Budgets.](#)
- + [Cornyn Says ACA Repeal Bill Could Head Straight To The Senate Floor.](#)
- + [Pence Defends House GOP's ACA Replacement Measure.](#)
- + [Pelosi Wants House GOP To Delay Votes On ACA Repeal Bill Until Analyses Are Conducted.](#)
- + [Maine Governor "Discouraged" By ACA Replacement Measure.](#)
- + [Poll Indicates Majority Of Americans Wants To Preserve, Improve ACA.](#)
- + [Poll Reveals 50% Of Americans Want To Keep ACA's Individual Mandate.](#)
- + [OMB Director Calls ACA An "Unmitigated Disaster."](#)
- + [Chaffetz Criticized Over Comments About Choosing Between iPhones And Healthcare.](#)

- + Analysts Warn Millions Could Lose Health Coverage Under GOP's ACA Replacement Proposal.
- + Analysis: GOP's ACA Replacement Bill Would Reduce Taxes By Almost \$600 Billion.
- + Analysis Indicates 6M To 10M People Could Lose Health Coverage Due To GOP's ACA Replacement Plan.
- + Analysts Examine Possible Impact Of ACA Replacement Plan On Healthcare Industry.
- + One Nation Launches Radio Ad Campaign In Support Of ACA Repeal.
- + GOP-Affiliated Group Begins Ad Campaign To Encourage Republicans To Support ACA Repeal Measure.
- + Chelsea Clinton Criticizes GOP's ACA Replacement Bill.
- + Republicans Who Criticized Dems For Rushing ACA Now Reportedly Moving Aggressively To Pass New Legislation.
- + GOP Slams CBO As ACA Replacement Moves Forward.
- + Oregon Governor Says ACA Replacement Plan Would Be Harmful.
- + AARP Slams ACA Replacement Plan, Calling It "Harmful."
- + Knoxville, VUMC Patients Could Get New Insurance Options Under ACA Replacement.
- + Nevada Governor Undecided About ACA Replacement Plan.
- + California Healthcare Advocates Blast ACA Replacement Plan.
- + Over 81,000 Kentuckians Purchase Health Insurance Plans.
- + Rep. Massie Doubts Trump's Allegiance To ACA Replacement Plan.
- + ACA Replacement Plan To Have Biggest Impact On Those Who Buy Coverage, Get Medicaid.
- + Health Experts: ACA Replacement Plan Shifts Insurance Costs Onto Patients.
- + ACA Replacement Plan Keeps Provisions Targeting Tax Shelters.
- + Effects Of ACA Replacement Plan In Texas "Unclear."
- + ACA Replacement Plan Would Cap Medicaid Payments Below Actual Costs.
- + Opinion: ACA "Battle" Has Brought Wealth Distribution To Core Of Healthcare Debate.
- + Minnesotans Who Study ACA Replacement Plan See Huge Changes For State.
- + Healthcare Industry Widely Opposed To ACA Replacement Plan.
- + Health Experts: ACA Replacement Plan Shifts Cost Burden Onto States.
- + Summary Of The Arizona Congressional Delegation's Stances On ACA Replacement.
- + ACA Replacement Plan Receives Criticism From Democrats, Republicans In Maryland.
- + Texas Lawmakers Considering "Riders" To Avoid Special Session Over ACA.
- + Del. Governor Denounces ACA Replacement Plan.
- + ACA Replacement Plan Draws Criticism From All Sides.
- + ACA Replacement Plan Receives Lukewarm Welcome In Colorado.
- + ACA Repeal Could Affect Insurance For 150K Sonoma County Residents.
- + GOP Groups Come Out Against Proposed Replacement Legislation.
- + Insurers And Hospitals Wary Of ACA Alternative.
- + Wall Street Shows Little Change After ACA Alternative Introduced.
- + Aetna Issues Comment On Health Reform.
- + New Mexico Lawmakers Concerned With ACA Alternative.
- + Rhode Island Lawmakers Criticize ACA Alternative.
- + Massachusetts Governor And Attorney General Express Concern Over ACA Alternative.
- + Idaho Lawmakers Have Questions About ACA Alternative As Legislative Session Winds Down.
- + GOP Alternative Could Leave Addicts Without Access To Treatment.
- + Speaker Ryan's Healthcare Alternative Attempts To Address The Poverty Trap Created By Means Testing Benefits.
- + Ryan's ACA Alternative Changes Name Of Individual Mandate To Surcharge, Effectively The Same Thing.
- + Democrats Plan Out Obstruction Strategy.
- + Conservative Lawmakers To Introduce Straight ACA Repeal.
- + Sen. Tillis Urges Members To Support ACA Alternative Despite Bill Not Being Perfect.
- + American Hospital Association Announces Opposition To Speaker Ryan's ACA Alternative.
- + Speaker Ryan Guarantees ACA Alternative Will Pass The House.
- + Sen. McConnell Faces Daunting Challenge Of Getting Fellow Republicans To Fall In Line With Replacement Legislation.

- + Sen. Kaine Attacked GOP ACA Alternative On Twitter.
- + Republicans and Democrats Come Up With Nicknames For ACA Alternative.
- + Opinion: Nursing Home Care Among Biggest Concern With ACA Alternative For Seniors.
- + Opinion: Ryan Calls His ACA Alternative An Act Of Mercy, It Isn't.
- + House Freedom Caucus Members Believe Ryan's Alternative Does Not Have The Necessary Votes To Pass.
- + Health Insurance Industry Raises Questions About ACA Alternative.
- + Commentary Considers ACA.

HEALTHCARE NEWS:

- + Planned Parenthood Rejects Trump Offer To Maintain Federal Funding If It Stops Abortions.
- + Kentucky House Passes Bill Defunding Planned Parenthood.
- + Veterans Affairs Secretary Calls For Congress To Extend Private-Sector Care Program.
- + Massachusetts State Commission Remains Divided Over Plans To Monitor Healthcare Costs.

HUMAN SERVICES NEWS:

- + Montana Bill To Establish Child Abuse Review Commission Passes House 98-2.

FOOD &IMPORT SAFETY:

- + USDA Confirms Tennessee Chicken Farm Bird Flu Strain Originated In North America.
- + USDA Finds Variation Of H5N2 Bird Flu Strain In Turkeys In Wisconsin.
- + Pet Food Ingredient Supplier Wilbur-Ellis, Employee Charged In Federal Court For Misbranding.

NUTRITION &OBESITY:

- + Fewer Overweight Americans Trying To Lose Weight, Study Suggests.
- + Washington Times Criticizes Philly Soda Tax.

MEDICARE:

- + Report Projects Global Alzheimer's Cases Will Nearly Triple By 2050.

MEDICAID &CHIP:

- + Op-Ed: Medicaid Expansion In Arizona Working As Intended.
- + GOP's ACA Replacement Would Cap Federal Medicaid Funding.
- + New Jersey's Medicaid Program Fails To Meet Beneficiaries' Healthcare Needs, Report Suggests.
- + Rep. Marshall Says Medicaid Beneficiaries "Aren't Going To Take Care Of Themselves."
- + Arkansas Governor To Ask Federal Government To Approve Proposed Changes To State's Expanded Medicaid Program.
- + Opinion: Governors Should Have A Voice In Medicaid Reform Debate.
- + Maine Governor Says State Residents Are Being Misled By Advocates Of Medicaid Expansion.
- + House Republicans' Healthcare Bill Would Allow States To Expand Medicaid Before 2020.

HEALTH &MEDICAL NEWS:

- + Trump Promises "New System" To Bring Down Drug Prices, Boost Competition.
- + Rep. Cummings To Meet With President Trump To Discuss Prescription Drug Prices.
- + Analysis Suggests Government Can Steeply Cut Drug Prices Through Negotiation.
- + Recommending Limits To Surgeons For Painkiller Prescriptions Reduced Pills Prescribed And Used, Analysis Suggests.
- + Just 13.8% Of Baby Boomers Had Been Tested For Hepatitis C By 2015, Report Finds.
- + US Drug Prices Cannot Be Explained By Research Costs, Study Finds.
- + Express Scripts Disputes Gilead's Claim, Would "Welcome" Lower Drug Prices.
- + TransEnterix Expects FDA Approval Of Its Surgical Robot This Year.
- + Editorial: Hospitals Need To Improve Reporting On Medical Device Problems.
- + Gene Activity In Nasal Epithelium Can Assist In Diagnosing Lung Cancer, Study Suggests.
- + Hawaii Senate Passes Bill Allowing Medical Aid In Dying.

- + Opioid Overdose Deaths In West Virginia Exhausting Burial Assistance Program For Needy Families.
- + Missouri Cities And Counties Create Prescription Monitoring Programs As State Fails To Do So.
- + Three Senators Ask GAO To Investigate Possible Abuses Of Orphan Drug Act.
- + American Adults Having Less Sex, Research Indicates.
- + Department Of Homeland Security Considering Separating Children From Parents Caught Crossing The Border Illegally.
- + Article Discusses Way To Get Kids To Sleep In Their Own Beds.
- + Overeating, Not Eating Enough Of 10 Foods And Nutrients May Be A Factor Nearly Half Of Us Deaths From Heart Disease, Stroke, And Diabetes, Study Suggests.

GLOBAL HEALTH:

- + Analysis Finds Physicians From Countries Affected By Immigration Order Serve Millions In The US.
- + Brazil Confirms Yellow Fever, Fears Transmission In Urban Populations Is Imminent.
- + South Korea Confirms 50,000 More Birds Are Infected With Avian Influenza.

NATIONAL NEWS:

- + White House Stands Behind Trump's Wiretap Allegations, But Offers No Proof.
- + Media Analyses: Rosenstein Sidesteps Calls For Special Prosecutor In Trump-Russia Probe.
- + WikiLeaks Posts Massive Trove Of Apparent CIA Documents.
- + Trump: Media Reports Of Staff Infighting Are "Fake News."
- + Trump Aide Epshteyn Deemed "Combative," "Difficult" By TV Networks.
- + WPost Analysis: Trump's Tweets Follow Topics Covered On "Fox and Friends."
- + Group Accuses Trump Adviser Icahn Of Violating Lobbying Rules.
- + Lawyer Says Case Deserves Another Look Amid Word Of Pence's Use Of Private Email.
- + In Meeting With Sessions, Civil Rights Leaders Express Concern Over Recent DOJ Actions.
- + NYTimes Analysis: Pruitt Filling Top EPA Offices With Climate Change Skeptics.
- + Senate Votes To Revoke Obama Land Management Rule.
- + Fishermen Sue Administration Over Obama-Era Marine Monument.
- + San Bernardino Letter Asking Trump For Help Raises Local Controversy.
- + Progressives Threaten Democrats With Primary Challenges Over Support For Gorsuch.
- + First Lady To Host White House International Women's Day Luncheon.
- + Trump Greets Elementary Students Visiting White House.
- + Schwarzenegger On Trump: "I Think He's In Love With Me."
- + Trump To Eat Dinner With Cruz And His Wife At White House Tonight.
- + After White House Meeting, Graham Jokes He Gave His New Phone Number To Trump.
- + Trump Met With TMZ Founder In Oval Office Last Week.
- + RNC Chief: "We Have To Keep This New Coalition Of Trump Voters Engaged."
- + Soros Donated \$246M To 100 Partners Of Women's March.
- + Poll Shows Democrat Ossoff, Republican Handel Leading Crowded Price Special.
- + GOP-Aligned Super PAC Quickly Hits Quist With \$700K Ad Campaign.
- + Gillespie, Stewart Trade Shots At Candidates' Forum.
- + Huntsman Meets With Hatch, Won't Say If He'll Mount 2018 Run.
- + Rubio Losing A Second Florida Office Over Protests.
- + Franken Jettisons Over \$41K In Donations From Boston Law Firm Under Federal Investigation.
- + Stocks Finish Lower.
- + NYTimes Analysis: Banks Hope For Fewer Lending Bias Lawsuits Amid "Deregulatory Fervor."
- + Commander Says Marines Acted "Selfishly And Unprofessionally" In Nude Photo Scandal.
- + Judge Refuses To Block Dakota Access Pipeline.
- + Black Lives Matter Protests New Chicago Police Use-Of-Force Proposal.
- + Detroit Police, Prosecutors Spar Over Handling Of Criminal Cases.
- + Emanuel, Rauner Aide Engage In Name Calling Over Budget Crisis.
- + Clinton Hoping "A Wave Of Young Women" Seek Elected Office.
- + DC Council Breaks With Mayor To Ask GOP Not To Renew School Voucher Program.

- + [Public Citizen: Bowser Mayoral Campaign Donors Exceeded Legal Limits.](#)
- + [House Passes Bill To Require Lactation Spaces In Federal Buildings.](#)
- + [Book By "Lefty Legend" Pleads For Return To New Deal Spirit In Democratic Party.](#)
- + [Monticello Restoration Project Aims To Accurately Portray Life Of Sally Hemings.](#)
- + [WPost: Trump's Attacks On The Media Encourage Tyrants.](#)
- + [Americans For Prosperity Official: Democrats Hypocritical On Secret Ballots.](#)

EDITORIAL WRAP-UP:

- + [New York Times.](#)
- + [Washington Post.](#)
- + [Wall Street Journal.](#)

THE BIG PICTURE:

- + [Headlines From Today's Front Pages.](#)

LAST LAUGHS:

- + [Late Night Political Humor.](#)

Leading the News:

CONSERVATIVE REPUBLICANS STRONGLY CRITICIZING HOUSE GOP'S ACA

REPLACEMENT BILL. This morning, there is extensive television, print and online coverage of conservative Republicans' response to the Affordable Care Act replacement bill which House GOP leaders unveiled on Monday. News outlets almost unanimously characterize reaction to the measure as negative, and suggest it may lack support to pass in the House or Senate.

In its lead story, [ABC World News Tonight](#) (3/7, lead story, 3:35, Muir, 14.63M) reported that on Monday, House GOP leaders unveiled their plan to replace the Affordable Care, and while President Trump is "firmly standing behind it," certain "high profile Republicans are rejecting it, saying it doesn't go far enough, arguing much of it looks like Obamacare." In addition, Democrats are "furious" about the plan.

The [CBS Evening News](#) (3/7, story 3, 2:30, Pelley, 11.17M) reported that in spite of Trump's support for the measure, conservative Republicans are saying "it broke promises that they made to the voters."

[NBC Nightly News](#) (3/7, story 2, 2:40, Holt, 16.61M) reported that "the new proposal is already taking fire and not just from Democrats." Many consumers are concerned about what the proposed changes mean for them.

On its front page, the [New York Times](#) (3/7, A1, Steinhauer, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that on Tuesday, conservative groups and GOP lawmakers "strongly criticized" Republicans' recently-released bill to repeal the Affordable Care Act, dashing GOP leaders' and President Trump's hopes "to jam [it] through Congress this month." Commenting on the bill, Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT) said, "This is not the Obamacare repeal bill we've been waiting for. It is a missed opportunity and a step in the wrong direction." He added, "We promised the American people we would drain the swamp and end business as usual in Washington. This bill does not do that." The article says the legislation preserves many of the ACA's provisions, such as capping lifetime benefits and prohibiting insurers from denying coverage due to pre-existing conditions.

The [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Debonis, Goldstein, Snell, 11.43M) reports House GOP leaders are bracing "for the task ahead: to forestall an outright revolt among conservative Republicans," who are opposed to the ACA repeal draft measure the leadership unveiled on Monday. Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH), a co-founder of the House Freedom Caucus, said, "Keep the Cadillac tax in place? Keep Medicaid in place until 2020?" For his part, Rep. Justin Amash (R-MI.), "a libertarian who frequently breaks with GOP leadership," called the proposal "Obamacare 2.0" in a tweet.

[USA Today](#) (3/7, Collins, Kelly, 5.28M) reports that the draft bill “is drawing mixed reviews from Republicans and strong opposition from Democrats, underscoring just how difficult it will be to pass the legislation.” The article says some conservative Republicans “have already come out against the bill, while others support it – or at least are open to further discussion.” Rep. Jordan said the GOP did not promise voters it would repeal the ACA, but retain some of its taxes, preserve Medicaid expansion for four more years, and “start a new entitlement with a fancy name of ‘advanceable refundable tax credits.’” He added, “I don’t believe this is actually going to bring down the cost of treatment, I don’t know that this is going to bring back affordable insurance.”

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/7, A1, Peterson, Armour, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports on its front page that despite President Trump’s support for the measure, opposition from conservatives may derail the proposal. The article says conservatives and moderates have voiced concerns about the bill, and adds that House Republicans cannot afford to have more than 22 members vote against the measure, assuming there are no Democratic defections.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/7, Mascaro, 4.52M) reports House Republican leaders saw “mounting opposition” on Tuesday following the bill’s release, and points out that the measure “was rejected by party deficit hawks, panned by Republican moderates and given only lukewarm support from President Trump.” The Times says just one day after it was unveiled, the “American Health Care Act already appears to be on life support, unlikely to survive the onslaught of friendly fire unless Trump personally rallies his party.” Yet, “Trump’s intervention looks uncertain,” because although he voiced support for the measure, Trump indicated it will require changes.

The [AP](#) (3/7, Alonso-Zaldivar, Fram) reports that on Tuesday, President Trump and HHS Secretary Tom Price lauded the ACA repeal measure proposed by House leaders, “even as surging conservative opposition complicated party leaders’ drive to sell the proposal to rank-and-file lawmakers and the public.” In a tweet, Trump praised “our wonderful new Healthcare Bill,” while Price wrote to two House committee chairmen, saying the bills they wrote “align with the president’s goal of rescuing Americans from the failures of the Affordable Care Act.” In spite of this show of support by top Republicans, throughout the day, “conservative lawmakers and others were blasting the bill, underscoring the challenge Republicans face in pushing one of their top priorities to passage.”

[Bloomberg Politics](#) (3/7, Tracer, Edney, 201K) reports that one conservative wonk said the GOP’s ACA replacement proposal “would make health insurance unaffordable for the poor,” while another called it “a ‘mind-boggling’ approach that could collapse the individual market,” and a third warned “it could put care out of reach for older Americans.” The measure is expected to disproportionately affect the poor, a prospect which “has set off opposition from both left and the right.”

A separate [Bloomberg Politics](#) (3/7, House, 201K) reports that an analysis of the bill commissioned by Republican Study Committee criticized “a key component...faulting a provision offering tax credits to individuals who wouldn’t otherwise have access to health insurance.” The analysis concluded, “Writing checks to individuals to purchase insurance is, in principle, Obamacare.”

On its website, [CNN](#) (3/7, Lee, 29.79M) reports that according to a conservative House aide, “The bill’s dead. Too many conservative groups are coming out against it. There’s no way they’ll have the votes to pass it in its current form.” Meanwhile, Rep. Mark Sanford (R-SC) said during an interview on Tuesday that “he would ‘lean no’ on the House GOP legislation unless changes are made.” Sanford is quoted as saying, “From a conservative’s perspective, there are a number of things that need further refinement. ... This notion of a refundable tax credit is a big deal, Medicaid expansion is a big deal, the Cadillac tax is a big deal.”

[Politico](#) (3/6, Bade, 2.46M) reports that several members of the House Freedom Caucus

"dismissed the bill as creating a new 'entitlement program' by offering health care tax credits to low-income Americans." Former Freedom Caucus chairman Jim Jordan (R-OH) stated, "This is Obamacare by a different form. ... They're still keeping the taxes in place and Medicaid expansion, and they're starting a new entitlement." The article says such criticism suggests "potential trouble for the repeal effort even after leaders tried to assuage the far-right."

[The Hill](#) (3/7, Wong, 1.25M) reports that several conservative groups strongly criticized the bill. For instance, the Club for Growth derided the measure as "RyanCare," and vowed "to record names of Republicans who vote for the bill unless it includes significant changes." The article says Heritage Action, FreedomWorks and the Koch Brothers-aligned Americans for Prosperity "also issued scathing statements" which were very critical of the ACA repeal draft measure.

[TIME](#) (3/7, Abramson, 6.98M) reports Club for Growth President David McIntosh warned, "If this warmed-over substitute for government-run healthcare remains unchanged, the Club for Growth will key vote against it. ... Republicans should be offering a full and immediate repeal of Obamacare's taxes, regulations, and mandates, an end to the Medicaid expansion, and inclusion of free-market reforms, like interstate competition."

The [Christian Science Monitor](#) (3/7, Kiefer, 387K) reports that according to independent analysts, "the American Health Care Act shows just how difficult it is to have 'insurance for everybody' and health-care benefits that 'beautifully' cover people, as Mr. Trump puts it, all while reducing costs." One of them said, "This is going to be a difficult lift, and I don't see Trump having much sway in this trek to repeal and replace."

[McClatchy](#) (3/7, Daugherty, Harrell, 74K) reports that the measure "to repeal the landmark legislation faces fierce intra-party opposition from conservatives who say the bill doesn't go far enough, and they have the votes to stop it in the Senate." Since the ACA replacement bill was unveiled on Monday, "a slew of congressional Republicans have voiced their opposition to the plan, referring to it as 'Obamacare Lite' or 'Obamacare 2.0,' and members of the conservative Freedom Caucus held a news conference to highlight their criticism."

The [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Howell, 272K) reports a group of House and Senate conservatives is urging GOP leaders to repeal the ACA and then "debate the next steps separately, rather than rushing ahead with a replacement bill that falls short in their eyes." The group, which includes "Sen. Rand Paul, Kentucky Republican, and Rep. Jim Jordan, Ohio Republican," intends to "reintroduce a 2015 effort that would have gutted the Affordable Care Act and attracted widespread GOP support before meeting President Obama's veto." Jordan said, "How about using the bill we all supported?"

Also covering the story are [Fox News](#) (3/7, 11.07M), the [New York Daily News](#) (3/7, Joseph, 4.45M), the [Huffington Post](#) (3/7, Grim, 237K), [ABC News](#) (3/7, Siegel, 3.09M), [NBC News](#) (3/7, Fox, 2.67M), [Vox](#) (3/7, Klein, 1.15M), [Washington Examiner](#) (3/7, Adams, 400K), another [Washington Examiner](#) (3/7, King, 400K) article, [Congressional Quarterly](#) (3/7, Williams, Subscription Publication, 967), [The Hill](#) (3/7, Bolton, 1.25M), [The Hill](#) (3/7, Hensch, 1.25M), [The Hill](#) (3/7, Marcos, Hagen, 1.25M), [Politico](#) (3/7, 2.46M), [Politico](#) (3/7, Bade, 2.46M), [Washington Examiner](#) (3/7, King, 400K), the [Tennessean](#) (3/7, Schouten, 407K), [The Hill](#) (3/7, Sullivan, 1.25M), [Politico Magazine](#) (3/7, Grunwald), [Roll Call](#) (3/7, McPherson, 63K), [U.S. News & World Report](#) (3/7, Leonard, 1.02M), [U.S. News & World Report](#) (3/7, Catanese, 1.02M), the [Huffington Post](#) (3/7, McAuliff, 237K), [Bloomberg Politics](#) (3/7, House, 201K), and the [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Howell, 272K).

Trump Lauds House GOP Leaders' ACA Replacement Bill. [USA Today](#) (3/7, Jackson, 5.28M) reports that on Tuesday, the Trump Administration "praised the House Republican health care bill...but said it is willing work with conservative critics of the plan." HHS Secretary Tom Price stated, "This is the beginning of the process...we look forward to working with them." Meanwhile, President Trump tweeted, "Our wonderful new Healthcare Bill is now out for review and

negotiation. ObamaCare is a complete and total disaster – is imploding fast!”

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/7, Memoli, 4.52M) reports that Trump said “he was ‘proud’ to support House Republicans’ plan to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, asserting that his party was committed to seeing the plan through.” He argued that the Affordable Care Act is “in bad shape, and we’re going to take action. There’s going to be no slowing down, there’s going to be no waiting and no more excuses by anybody.”

[Politico](#) (3/7, Quigley, 2.46M) reports Trump said he hopes the bill will “go through Congress ‘very quickly.’” He added, “I think we’re going to have a tremendous success. ... It’s a complicated process, but actually it’s very simple. It’s called good health care.”

Similarly, [The Hill](#) (3/7, Fabian, 1.25M) reports the President urged Congress “to act ‘quickly’ on the legislation, telling them he was elected ‘based on the fact [of] repeal and replace ObamaCare and many of you people are in the same boat.”

On its website, [CNN](#) (3/7, Fox, Liptak, 29.79M) reports Trump warned House GOP lawmakers that “if they can’t pass health care legislation after seven years of promises, it could be a ‘bloodbath’ in the 2018 midterm election,” according to an unnamed source.

Meanwhile, a separate article in [The Hill](#) (3/7, Savransky, 1.25M) reports Trump also tweeted, “I feel sure that my friend @RandPaul will come along with the new and great health care program because he knows Obamacare is a disaster!”

Also covering the story are [CNBC](#) (3/7, Belvedere, 2.17M), the [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Sherfinski, 272K), [Reuters](#) (3/7, Heavey, Chiacu), [Roll Call](#) (3/7, Bennett, 63K), [NPR](#) (3/7, Horsley, 1.92M), the [Washington Examiner](#) (3/7, Cunningham, 400K), [The Hill](#) (3/7, Hellmann, 1.25M), [The Hill](#) (3/7, Balluck, 1.25M), [The Hill](#) (3/7, Greenwood, 1.25M), the [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Boyer, 272K), and [CNBC](#) (3/7, Mangan, 2.17M).

Rand Paul Says Conservatives Will Not Support ACA Repeal Measure. [The Hill](#) (3/7, Shelbourne, 1.25M) reports that according to Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY), “the House GOP plan to repeal and replace ObamaCare will not pass because it is too similar to the original healthcare law.” He tweeted on Tuesday, “Th[e] House leadership plan is Obamacare Lite. It will not pass. Conservatives are not going to take it.”

The [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Sherfinski, 272K) also covers the story.

Blunt Warns ACA Repeal Bill May Not Receive Enough Votes To Pass In The Senate. [The Hill](#) (3/7, Hellmann, 1.25M) reports Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO) said on Tuesday that Republicans’ “plan to repeal and replace ObamaCare as it stands may not be able to get the support needed to pass the Senate.” He added, “What I don’t like is, it may not be a plan that gets a majority votes and let’s us move on. Because, we can’t stay where we are with the plan we’ve got now.”

Schumer Vows To Fight ACA Repeal Bill “Tooth And Nail.” [The Hill](#) (3/7, Bolton, 1.25M) reports that on Tuesday, Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer (D-NY) “derided the House GOP healthcare plan as ‘TrumpCare’ and vowed that Democrats will fight it ‘tooth and nail.’” He said that the American Health Care Act aims to reduce taxes for high earners, and warned that it is “‘on[e] of the biggest assaults’ on women’s health ‘we’ve seen yet.’”

[The Hill](#) (3/7, Carney, 1.25M) and the [Washington Examiner](#) (3/7, Crabtree, 400K) also cover the story.

Pelosi “Blasts” GOP’s ACA Replacement Proposal. On its website, [CBS News](#) (3/7, Shabad, 4.4M) reports that on Tuesday, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) “blasted House Republicans’ plan to replace Obamacare that they rolled out Monday evening.” She said during

an interview, "Just when you've seen it all, the Republicans go to a more extreme place. This will make millions of people – it's a question of 10, 15, 20 million people off of having health insurance. It will be the biggest transfer of wealth from low-middle income people to wealthy people in our country."

[The Hill](#) (3/7, Greenwood, 1.25M) also quotes Pelosi as saying, "Show us the numbers as to how many people will be thrown off. It couldn't be worse."

Another article in [The Hill](#) (3/7, Hensch, 1.25M) reports that Sen. Chris Murphy (D-CT) also "blasted House Republicans over their plans for repealing and replacing ObamaCare."

The [Daily Caller](#) (3/7, Datoc, 898K) also covers the story.

Pennsylvania Governor Criticizes ACA repeal Bill. The [AP](#) (3/7, Levy) reports that on Tuesday, Gov. Tom Wolf's (D) "administration and Pennsylvania's hospitals slammed a Republican plan in Congress to replace" the ACA, and "described broad ripple effects that would shift health care costs to states, hospitals and the poor." Wolf warned that the ACA repeal measure "would leave fewer people insured and hurt coverage for the elderly, the disabled and people seeking addiction treatment in the midst of a drug epidemic." Therefore, he urged Pennsylvania's delegation to Congress to vote against the bill.

New Hampshire Democrats Warn ACA Repeal Plan Would Harm Gains Made In The Battle Against The Opioid Epidemic. The [AP](#) (3/7) reports that New Hampshire Democratic lawmakers in Congress said the "Republican bill to replace the health care law would reverse progress for care addressing the opioid epidemic." Sen. Maggie Hassan (D-NH) warned that "the plan would cut back on services to help substance abuse, and hurt children, seniors and people with disabilities," while Rep. Annie Kuster (D-NH) argued that repealing the ACA would negatively affect thousands of state residents who are benefiting from increased access to "treatment and recovery services for those struggling with substance abuse."

Illinois Governor Worried His State Will Not Fare Well Under GOP's ACA Replacement Plan. The [Chicago Tribune](#) (3/7, Byrne, Geiger, 2.54M) reports that on Tuesday, Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner (R) "said he's worried Illinois 'won't do very well' if the proposed U.S. House Republican Obamacare replacement plan becomes law." He added that this is a major concern, and he wants "to make sure that people in Illinois are not left in the lurch or that, you know, there's a lot of pressure to reduce insurance coverage for people in Illinois."

The Secretary in the News:

PRICE SAYS ACA REPEAL BILL IS "A WORK IN PROGRESS." [Reuters](#) (3/7, Rascoe) reports that on Tuesday, HHS Secretary Tom Price said President Trump supports the GOP bill which aims to repeal the Affordable Care Act. He was asked if the Trump Administration backs every aspect of the bill. Price stated, "This is a work in progress and we'll work with the House and Senate in this process."

On its website, [CNBC](#) (3/7, Pramuk, 2.17M) reports Price emphasized that "lawmakers are still early in the process, saying, 'We'll work through' the disagreements over the plan because it is 'an important process.'"

On its website, [CNN](#) (3/7, Liptak, 29.79M) reports that Price, who was "pitching" the plan, "avoided repeating the Obama-era promise that if patients like their current doctor they'll be able to keep that doctor under the Republican measure." Instead, he said, "Our goal is absolutely to make certain that individuals have the opportunity to select their physician."

The [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Howell, 272K) quotes Price as saying that the ACA replacement plan includes proposals which "offer patient-centered solutions that will provide all Americans with

access to affordable, quality health care, promote innovation, and offer peace of mind for those with preexisting conditions."

The [Washington Examiner](#) (3/7, Westwood, 400K) reports that Price explained the ACA repeal and replacement will take place in three phases. The first step "would focus on the replacement bill put forward in the House by Republicans this week." Phase two would involve "regulatory modifications," and the last phase "would involve additional legislation that cannot be achieved through budget reconciliation."

Also covering the story are [CNN](#) (3/7, Diamond, Liptak, 29.79M), [The Hill](#) (3/7, Fabian, 1.25M), [Politico](#) (3/7, Quigley, 2.46M), the [Daily Caller](#) (3/7, Donachie, 898K), the [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Boyer, 272K), and [Washington Examiner](#) (3/7, Kasperowicz, 400K).

PRICE DISCUSSES CONSERVATIVES' OPPOSITION TO GOP'S ACA REPEAL BILL

DURING INTERVIEW. [Fox News' Hannity](#) (3/7, 535K) interviewed HHS Secretary Tom Price about criticism of House Republicans' Affordable Care Act replacement plan coming from conservatives. Price said, "We've been working with members of the Senate, stakeholders all across the land. I think we've gotten to a pretty sweet spot. This is a work in progress and continues to be so." He added, "The core is that Obamacare has failed as you well know. Costs are going up, access is going down. It's only getting worse, insurers pulling out of the market. Premiums are going up, deductibles are skyrocketing." Price argued that the ACA repeal bill deals with all these issues by "providing access to care and affordable coverage that individuals need." He noted that since Republicans agree that repealing the ACA is crucial, the dissension has to do with what will replace the healthcare law.

PRICE TOUTS ACA REPEAL BILL DURING INTERVIEW. [The Hill](#) (3/7, Webb, 1.25M) interviewed HHS Secretary Tom Price about the Affordable Care Act replacement bill unveiled by House GOP leaders earlier this week. Asked if the ACA were truly gone, Price said yes, it is. He explained that the ACA repeal measure "is incredibly important. It's a first step in the process, but there are two other activities or phases that are going on that are important for folks to appreciate. The second one is there are all the kinds of things that we're able to do here at the Department of Health and Human Services." Price also said he is already taking steps to help those with ACA plans. He stated, "What we've done initially is to put out a proposed rule that would modify how folks are able to sign up for coverage so that they get a greater flexibility in signing up for coverage, greater choices in signing up for coverage. And as I mentioned, we're going to go through – we are in the process of going through every single one of those rules and regulations and guidances that were put out for individuals and folks across this land – businesses as well as insurance companies – to make certain that they are actually responding to the needs of the American people, not getting in the way of affordable, accessible, quality coverage that incentivizes innovation."

ACA REPEAL BILL EXPECTED TO IMPACT LOW-INCOME PEOPLE, HOSPITALS. [USA](#)

[Today](#) (3/7, O'Donnell, 5.28M) reports that according to experts, the Affordable Care Act replacement bill which GOP House leaders released on Monday "will hurt low-income consumers who rely on federal subsidies or Medicaid for their coverage, as well as the hospitals who are required to treat them whether or not they are insured." Low-income people who gained access to healthcare coverage because of the ACA are expected to be especially hard hit by the proposal. The article adds that HHS Secretary Tom Price "and other Trump administration officials have been careful to say that everyone will still have 'access' to insurance," yet, if consumers find it unaffordable, "that's bad news for hospitals, which are required to at least stabilize" patients "under law."

PENCE, PRICE MEET WITH GOP OPPONENTS OF ACA REPEAL BILL. The [Washington Examiner](#) (3/7, 400K) reports that on Tuesday, Vice President Mike Pence "huddled with Republicans who don't like the Republican bill to repeal and replace Obamacare, and promised the bill will be tweaked to earn their support." The article says Pence "met with several small

groups of GOP lawmakers, including members of the House Freedom Caucus, the most vocal opponents of the plan." He was joined by HHS Secretary Tom Price.

CASINO INDUSTRY URGES CONGRESS, HHS SECRETARY TO CONTINUE RECOGNITION OF GAMBLING DISORDERS. The [AP](#) (3/7) reports the American Gaming Association and other representatives of the casino industry sent a letter to Congress and Secretary of Health and Human Services Tom Price asking them to continue the recognition of gambling disorders as a health problem. The letter said that the ACA recognizes treatment for gambling disorders as part of the law's essential health benefits, and the casino industry said in their letter that such recognition is necessary for people to get help.

HHS in the News:

SENATE MAY VOTE THIS WEEK ON VERMA FOR CMS. [Congressional Quarterly](#) (3/7, Young, Subscription Publication, 967) reports, "The Senate may vote this week on the nomination of Seema Verma to serve as administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services," a post in which Verma is "expected to bolster GOP efforts to shrink the federal footprint in delivering health care while also dealing with the routine squabbles between the agency and powerful medical lobbies." The article notes that Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell filed on Tuesday a procedural motion to limit debate on Verma's nomination.

CONGRESSIONAL DEMOCRATS ASK HHS TO PUSH FOR MORE ACCESS TO GENETIC TESTS. [STAT](#) (3/7, Facher) reports that 15 Congressional Democrats are asking HHS Secretary Tom Price "to examine how the federal government can help patients obtain genetic testing" that the group said "could make state-of-the-art medical approaches a reality." In the letter, which also was sent to Medicare Payment Advisory Commission Chairman Dr. Francis Crosson, the lawmakers – many from "biotech hubs" such as San Francisco – also ask for a review of "how the current Medicare and Medicaid coverage determination framework may restrain the use of genetic tests" and for suggestions on how precision medicine could be incorporated.

FAUCI, BEKKER: WOMEN ARE LEADING HIV RESEARCH. In a [STAT](#) (3/8, Fauci, Bekker) op-ed, International AIDS Society president Linda-Gail Bekker and National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases director Anthony S. Fauci "celebrate the strong women who have always been at the heart of fighting the HIV/AIDS epidemic." They note that "women now represent half of the people living with HIV," and are on the "front lines" of research "as scientists in laboratories and clinics and as leaders of large, international clinical trial efforts." Bekker and Fauci add that women are on the forefront of prevention research as well, pointing to two trials in Africa where "more than 3,500 women...helped test a vaginal ring infused with an anti-HIV drug."

MARCH FOR SCIENCE MOVEMENT GROWS, DESPITE UNCLEAR GOALS. [The Atlantic](#) (3/7, Yong, 21.27M) reports that the March for Science "has blossomed into a huge movement," despite lacking a clear message. The movement has no less than 21 statements "that could be reasonably interpreted as a goal" on its website and Facebook page that "differ substantially in content and approach." Maureen Boyle, a neuroscientist at the National Institute on Drug Abuse, suggested that "organizers need to come up with two or three top messages that they want to really drive home."

APPROXIMATELY 25% OF US ADULTS HAVE ARTHRITIS, CDC SAYS. According to [ABC World News Tonight](#) (3/7, story 12, 0:20, Muir, 14.63M), a new report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reveals "cases of severe arthritis" are "on the rise in this country."

According to the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Naqvi, 11.43M), a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Vital Signs [report](#) indicates that approximately 25% of US adults have arthritis. The report also indicated that "activity limitations from arthritis increased by 20 percent since 2002." The Post adds, "Because so few people participate in education programs for arthritis self-management strategies or are physically active, the CDC hopes to conduct future research to

convince people to become more active and learn more about self-management strategies for arthritis, said Charles Helmick, a senior medical epidemiologist with the Arthritis Program at the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, part of the CDC."

[CNN](#) (3/7, Christensen, 29.79M) reports, "The majority of current cases of arthritis – 32.2 million – are in people under age 65." Acting CDC Director Dr. Anne Schuchat said, "Contrary to popular opinion, it is not an old person's disease." The data indicated "women have it more than men, and the number is particularly acute for" patients with diabetes, "heart patients and" individuals who are obese.

[Reuters](#) (3/7, Beasley) reports that during a call with reporters, Dr. Schuchat said, "Arthritis is at an all-time high and alarmingly, more people with arthritis are suffering from it." Dr. Schuchat "estimated that by 2040, the number of arthritis patients in the United States will reach 78 million as the population increases and ages."

The [Augusta \(GA\) Chronicle](#) (3/7, Corwin, 173K) reports that meanwhile, Dr. Schuchat said, "While it may seem counter-intuitive, physical activity can be the antidote for many people." Dr. Schuchat added, "Physical activity can actually decrease pain and improve function by almost 40 percent but many are not physically active."

CDC BUDGET IN PERIL AS LAWMAKERS PROPOSE CUTTING THE PREVENTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH FUND. [STAT](#) (3/7, Facher) reports "The latest version of the GOP health care bill would end the law's Prevention and Public Health Fund, which provides nearly \$1 billion annually, in 2019. Those dollars have become an integral part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's budget." Congressman Tom Cole (R-OK) told reporters it was too early to determine what the Republicans would do with the agency's funding, and he is waiting for more specifics from the Trump Administration before proceeding. The CDC declined to comment. [Vox](#) (3/7, Belluz, 1.15M) reports the cuts to the fund make up 12 percent of the CDC's overall budget. According to John Auerbach, President and CEO of the public health nonprofit the Trust for America's Health, "Losing the fund will result in a significant increase in preventable illnesses and injuries."

[NBC News](#) (3/8, Fox, 2.67M) also reports.

INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE EXISTS ON NECESSITY FOR ROUTINE PELVIC SCREENING EXAMS FOR HEALTHY WOMEN, USPSTF SAYS. [Reuters](#) (3/7, Rapaport) reports the US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) has issued an evidence report indicating "there isn't enough evidence to say" for certain "whether healthy women need routine pelvic screening exams." The evidence report's [findings](#) were published online in the Journal of the American Medical Association. Reuters points out, however, that the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists "recommends pelvic exams as part of annual checkups until women's age or other health issues make it unlikely they would choose to treat any conditions detected." According to Reuters, physicians "should tell patients there's uncertainty about the value of these screenings and discuss whether they're needed on case by case basis," the authors of an [accompanying editorial](#) observed.

On its "All Things Considered" program and in its "Shots" blog, [NPR](#) (3/7, Neighmond, 1.92M) reports that "traditionally, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists [has recommended](#) the exam annually for all women 21 years of age and older." The authors of the USPSTF's evidence report did call for "more rigorous research on the question" as to the necessity of routine pelvic screening exams for healthy women. For women with symptoms of bleeding or infection, however, the USPSTF panel recommends they see their physician immediately.

Health Reform:

GOP LEADERS ATTEMPTING TO GARNER SUPPORT FOR ACA REPEAL MEASURE. On its website, [NBC News](#) (3/8, Caldwell, 2.67M) reports that on Tuesday, GOP “leaders launched a full-court press...to rally support for the party’s newly revealed health care plan as criticism mounted from rank-and-file members and prospects for the legislation appeared uncertain at best.” Vice President Mike Pence visited “Capitol Hill to sell the GOP leadership’s plan to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act and met with those lobbying the heaviest criticism at the bill.” Meanwhile, HHS Secretary Tom Price promoted it during a White House briefing, and Reps. Kevin Brady and Greg Walden, “who wrote the bill, held two news conferences (including one with House Speaker Paul Ryan) as they blanketed television news shows to sell the plan.”

[NPR](#) (3/7, Naylor, 1.92M) reports that “party leaders have begun trying to sell the [ACA repeal] proposal to the American public.” President Trump led the effort by tweeting that the “wonderful new Healthcare Bill is now out for review and negotiation.”

The [Washington Examiner](#) (3/7, Cunningham, 400K) reports that Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX), chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, praised the measure on Tuesday, saying, “This is Obamacare Gone.” He and Rep. Greg Walden (R-OR), chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, “insisted they’re confident they will be able to win over Republicans who are skeptical about the measure.”

Meanwhile, [The Hill](#) (3/7, Carney, 1.25M) reports in its “Floor Action” blog that Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) said on “Tuesday that the Senate will take up a House bill released on Monday night.” McConnell is quoted as saying, “I encourage every member to review it, because I hope to call it up when we receive it from the House.”

The [New York Post](#) (3/7, Schultz, 3.82M) also covers the story.

SEN. GRAHAM RECOMMENDS THAT GOP SLOW DOWN ACA REPEAL PROCESS. [Politico](#) (3/7, Everett, 2.46M) reports that on Tuesday, Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) said GOP lawmakers “may need to ‘slow down’ on their breakneck pace of repealing Obamacare,” and added that members “should be less concerned with the timeline and more concerned with getting it right.” He stated, “I’ve always been concerned that the public needs to absorb this. We’re not going to be judged by when we did it but how we did it.”

Meanwhile, [Vox](#) (3/7, Stein, 1.15M) reports that Sen. Jim Inhofe (R-OK) likes much of the ACA repeal measure, and he is happy “to see it would repeal what he calls Obamacare’s ‘dictatorial provisions’ – the individual mandate.” Yet, “the day after GOP leaders introduced the House bill, Inhofe wasn’t prepared to say he’d vote for it.”

[The Hill](#) (3/7, Greenwood, 1.25M) also covers the story.

GOP GOVERNORS SAY ACA REPEAL BILL WOULD LEAD TO LOSS OF COVERAGE FOR MILLIONS, OR HIGHER BUDGETS. The [AP](#) (3/8, Beaumont, Noon) reports GOP governors are complaining that House Republican leaders’ proposal to replace the Affordable Care Act “would force millions of lower-income earners off insurance rolls or stick states with the cost of keeping them covered.” The article says that those who lead political battleground states in particular “were generally cool to the bill,” and some indicated “they would continue working on their own legislation to compete with the measure introduced Monday.”

CORNYN SAYS ACA REPEAL BILL COULD HEAD STRAIGHT TO THE SENATE FLOOR. On its website, [CNN](#) (3/7, Barrett, 29.79M) reports Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX) stated that the bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act “is not expected to go to the” Senate’s “committees of jurisdiction for their imprint, although it will be open to amendment on the floor.” He “said there has already been a great deal of House and Senate negotiating and he considers the GOP-introduced bill Monday a product of the House and Senate.” Therefore, the measure will likely head “straight to the floor,” Cornyn said.

PENCE DEFENDS HOUSE GOP'S ACA REPLACEMENT MEASURE. [Politico](#) (3/7, McCaskill, 2.46M) reports that on Tuesday, Vice President Mike Pence "dismissed Kentucky Sen. Rand Paul's criticism of the House's Obamacare repeal-and-replace legislation." Paul had criticized the bill, saying that it would not pass because conservatives oppose it. Asked if Paul "had valid complaints," Pence said during an interview, "I don't believe he does, honestly." Nevertheless, Pence "conceded that the House plan will likely evolve as it goes through what he framed as 'a very open process on Capitol Hill' compared to the backroom dealing of Obamacare."

[The Hill](#) (3/7, Bolton, 1.25M) reports that Pence "touted the House GOP's American Health Care Act as 'the framework for reform' on healthcare." In addition, he "lauded the legislation as a 'historic moment' for Congress to 'keep its promise' to voters to replace ObamaCare."

The [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Howell, 272K) and the [Washington Examiner](#) (3/7, Ferrechio, 400K) also cover the story.

PELOSI WANTS HOUSE GOP TO DELAY VOTES ON ACA REPEAL BILL UNTIL ANALYSES ARE CONDUCTED. [The Hill](#) (3/7, Lillis, 1.25M) reports House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) is urging "GOP leaders to delay votes on their ObamaCare repeal legislation until the budget and coverage impacts can be analyzed." Democrats are arguing that "it's a dereliction to ask lawmakers to vote on legislation of such consequence without an independent assessment of the budget, coverage and quality-of-care impacts." Pelosi requested the delay in a letter to House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) on Tuesday.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (3/7, Ferrechio, 400K) also covers the story.

MAINE GOVERNOR "DISCOURAGED" BY ACA REPLACEMENT MEASURE. [The Hill](#) (3/7, Hensch, 1.25M) reports Maine Gov. Paul LePage (R) said "he is not impressed by new legislation from House Republicans to repeal and replace ObamaCare." He said during an interview, "Right now, I am very, very discouraged and disappointed with what the House Republicans are introducing."

POLL INDICATES MAJORITY OF AMERICANS WANTS TO PRESERVE, IMPROVE ACA. [USA Today](#) (3/7, Estepa, 5.28M) reports that according to a Monmouth University poll, "a majority of Americans want[s] to keep the Affordable Care Act in some manner." Data show 51% of respondents "said they would prefer to keep and work to improve ACA," while an additional "7% said they wanted to keep the health care law as is." In contrast, 31 percent of respondents "wanted ACA repealed with a replacement, and another 8% wanted the law repealed without a replacement."

POLL REVEALS 50% OF AMERICANS WANT TO KEEP ACA'S INDIVIDUAL MANDATE. [The Hill](#) (3/7, Shelbourne, 1.25M) reports that according to a new CNN/ORC poll, 50 percent of consumers "oppose the elimination of ObamaCare's individual mandate, which requires people to purchase health insurance." Meanwhile, "48 percent of Americans support the removal of the mandate."

OMB DIRECTOR CALLS ACA AN "UNMITIGATED DISASTER." [The Hill](#) (3/7, Shelbourne, 1.25M) reports that on Tuesday, Mick Mulvaney, director of the Office of Management and Budget, called the Affordable Care Act "an 'unmitigated disaster,' arguing it is unfair to compare the GOP's new healthcare plan to what 'ObamaCare might have been.'" He added, "You have to compare it to what ObamaCare is, and it's a failure. And by that comparison this new program is going to be a tremendous success."

CHAFFETZ CRITICIZED OVER COMMENTS ABOUT CHOOSING BETWEEN IPHONES AND HEALTHCARE. On its website, [CNN](#) (3/7, Scott, 29.79M) reports that on Tuesday, House Oversight Committee Chairman Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) "walked back his remarks earlier in the

day that low-income Americans may have to prioritize purchasing health care coverage over gadgets such as iPhones under Republicans' Obamacare replacement plan." He is quoted as saying, "Americans have choices, and they've got to make a choice. So rather than getting that new iPhone that they just love and want to go spend hundreds of dollars on that, maybe they should invest in their own health care." The piece says Chaffetz was attempting to explain that he wants low-income Americans to gain more access to healthcare coverage. The article points out that he was quickly criticized on social media.

[The Hill](#) (3/7, Hensch, 1.25M) reports that Democratic National Committee (DNC) Chairman Tom Perez "slammed Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-Utah) over his remarks that Americans might have to choose between buying a new iPhone and affording health insurance." Perez stated, "Rep. Jason Chaffetz is a shameless hypocrite. ... He makes a six-figure taxpayer salary, has taxpayer subsidized healthcare, and he still thinks working Americans should be forced to choose between health insurance or owning a telephone."

A separate article in [The Hill](#) (3/7, Hagen, 1.25M) reports that Chaffetz later clarified his comments, saying, "What we're trying to say, and maybe I didn't say as smoothly as I possibly could, but people need to make a conscious choice, and I believe in self-reliance." He added, "And they're going to have to make those decisions. We want people to have access to an affordable healthcare product."

Also covering the story are [CNBC](#) (3/7, Mangan, 2.17M), the [Huffington Post](#) (3/7, Miller, 237K), [Reuters](#) (3/7, Simpson), [New York Daily News](#) (3/7, Silverstein, 4.45M), [New York Post](#) (3/7, Moore, 3.82M), [Vox](#) (3/7, Golshan, 1.15M), and [Daily Intelligencer \(NY\)](#) (3/7, Levitz, 795K).

ANALYSTS WARN MILLIONS COULD LOSE HEALTH COVERAGE UNDER GOP'S ACA REPLACEMENT PROPOSAL. The [New York Times](#) (3/7, Goodnough, Abelson, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that on Tuesday, analysts warned that millions of consumers with Affordable Care Act plans could lose coverage under the repeal bill unveiled by House GOP leaders on Monday. The analysts say "Americans in their 50s and 60s [would be] especially likely to find coverage unaffordable." The article points out that while the ACA repeal plan would provide annual tax credits of \$2,000 to \$4,000 based on age, those "credits would not cover nearly as much of the cost of premiums as the current subsidies do, at least for the type of comprehensive coverage that the Affordable Care Act requires." As a result, some people would be forced to give up their coverage due to costs.

The [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Eilperin, 11.43M) reports data indicate the ACA repeal plan "would create far different winners and losers compared with the law's existing system, by providing additional financial help to wealthier Americans while likely decreasing federal aid to those with lower and moderate incomes." While the ACA focused on providing subsidies for lower-income people, the GOP's plan "would create a glidepath allowing individuals earning up to \$75,000 a year and married couples earning as much as \$150,000 a refundable tax credit. Some Americans earning more than that also would get assistance, though in lessening amounts."

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/7, Karlamangla, 4.52M) reports that millions of Californians could lose coverage under the GOP's ACA replacement bill. The most significant "impact would likely be on the state's Medicaid program, known as Medi-Cal, which provides coverage to more than a third of California's residents." The article says the measure "would begin phasing out federal money for the expansion starting in 2020." While "states could still let people join the program, the cut would make it likely the state would scrap the program."

Also covering the story are [Politico](#) (3/7, Diamond, 2.46M), [Forbes](#) (3/7, 15.17M) and [Vox](#) (3/7, Belluz, 1.15M).

ANALYSIS: GOP'S ACA REPLACEMENT BILL WOULD REDUCE TAXES BY ALMOST \$600 BILLION. [USA Today](#) (3/7, Jackson, 5.28M) reports that Republicans' replacement bill for the

Affordable Care Act “would cut taxes by nearly \$600 billion over the coming decade, according to estimates by the Joint Committee on Taxation.” That is because the plan would repeal almost all ACA taxes. Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX), who is the Ways and Means chairman, said, “They hurt the economy, they hurt health care, they achieved nothing. ... I don’t want Americans to continue to struggle under the Obamacare taxes, which is why we’re moving to repeal them.”

[The Hill](#) (3/7, Jagoda, 1.25M) reports almost all ACA taxes would be repealed under the proposal, “with the notable exception of the ‘Cadillac tax’ on high-cost health plans.” Under the ACA, “the Cadillac tax is set to take effect in 2020,” but the GOP’s “bill would delay the Cadillac tax until 2025.”

The [AP](#) (3/7, Ohlemacher) reports that the measure “would cut more than 20 taxes enacted under President Barack Obama’s health law, saving taxpayers nearly \$600 billion over the next decade.” Most of that amount “would go to the wealthiest Americans.”

[The Atlantic](#) (3/7, Thompson, 21.27M) also covers the story.

ANALYSIS INDICATES 6M TO 10M PEOPLE COULD LOSE HEALTH COVERAGE DUE TO GOP’S ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN. On its website, [CNBC](#) (3/7, Mangan, 2.17M) reports an S&P Global Ratings assessment shows “between 6 million to 10 million people would lose health insurance coverage” under the proposed changes to the Affordable Care Act, given that enrollment in the individual market would decline by 2-4 million, while 4-6 million people would lose access to Medicaid between 2020 and 2024. The article says the estimate is “sobering.”

[The Hill](#) (3/7, Beavers, 1.25M) reports that the GOP’s ACA replacement bill “would scrap many of the law’s key elements, including subsidies to purchase coverage, mandates for people to have insurance and the Medicaid expansion.” Instead, “Republicans are proposing tax credits that would be based on age, not income, and an overhaul of how the federal government funds Medicaid.”

[Vox](#) (3/7, Matthews, 1.15M) also covers the story.

ANALYSTS EXAMINE POSSIBLE IMPACT OF ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN ON HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY. [Bloomberg News](#) (3/7, Tracer, Greifeld, Cortez, 2.41M) reports there is much “for the health-care industry to like in the latest Republican proposal to repeal the Affordable Care Act, which would lower taxes and eliminate rules.” Yet, there is also a lot “not to like because the plan would funnel less money into helping people pay for insurance and hospital visits.” One analyst concluded that the GOP’s ACA replacement plan “is ‘mostly positive’ for insurers covering people in Medicare and the working population, and ‘modestly worse’ for hospitals and insurers that specialize in Medicaid.”

ONE NATION LAUNCHES RADIO AD CAMPAIGN IN SUPPORT OF ACA REPEAL. [Politico](#) (3/7, Robillard, 2.46M) reports One Nation, a group “which is controlled by allies of Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell,” is launching “radio ads in 10 states, pressuring senators to support the repeal and replacement of Obamacare just as a bill starts working its way through the House of Representatives.” These ads represent “the second half of a \$3 million ad buy aiming to build support for the politically explosive repeal of the health law.” The article points out that One Nation “has already aired television ads in nine states, and is also spending money on digital, print and direct mail.”

One Nation’s Radio Ads Criticized For Being Misleading. Glenn Kessler writes in the [Washington Post](#) (3/8, 11.43M) “Fact Checker” about One Nation’s radio ads, and says the “spots target five Democrats running for reelection in 2018” and also seek “to support six Republicans who face challenges or might be considered uncertain on how they would vote on a replacement bill.” Kessler argues that “as is often the case, the language of the ads leaves a misleading impression that the problems that afflict the ACA exchanges extend to the entire insurance

market.”

GOP-AFFILIATED GROUP BEGINS AD CAMPAIGN TO ENCOURAGE REPUBLICANS TO SUPPORT ACA REPEAL MEASURE. The [Washington Examiner](#) (3/7, Drucker, 400K) reports that on Tuesday, American Action Network, a group which is affiliated with House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI), launched an ad “campaign to gently nudge Republicans who oppose the GOP healthcare bill to fall in line.” In order to reduce “opposition and build support among voters,” the group “has launched a digital advertising campaign in the districts of 21 House Republicans.”

CHELSEA CLINTON CRITICIZES GOP’S ACA REPLACEMENT BILL. [The Hill](#) (3/7, Seipel, 1.25M) reports in its “Blog Briefing Room” that on Tuesday, former first daughter Chelsea Clinton “knocked House Republicans’ ObamaCare replacement plan, calling it ‘not moral.’” She tweeted, “So the moral is if you want to have a child, take your kids to the Dr., need hospital or ER care, to do it before 2020? No, that’s NOT moral.”

REPUBLICANS WHO CRITICIZED DEMS FOR RUSHING ACA NOW REPORTEDLY MOVING AGGRESSIVELY TO PASS NEW LEGISLATION. The [New York Times](#) (3/7, Pear, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that it took House Democrats months to craft the Affordable Care Act in 2009, but the House Ways and Means Committee and the Energy and Commerce Committee are scheduled to “formally mark up legislation to repeal and replace the act” on Wednesday, “less than 48 hours after Republicans unveiled the bill to the public.” The piece says the Senate could take up the bill in only a few weeks. The article points out GOP lawmakers “excoriated Democrats for rushing passage of the Affordable Care Act...blasting ‘back-room deals’ and cheering on the nascent Tea Party movement, with its hostile chant ‘Read the bill, read the bill.’” Yet, “Republicans have adopted a much more aggressive timetable for repealing the law and remaking Medicaid.”

GOP SLAMS CBO AS ACA REPLACEMENT MOVES FORWARD. [Politico](#) (3/7, Haberkorn, 2.46M) reports Republican leaders, who anticipate that their Affordable Care Act replacement plan “will leave fewer Americans insured than Obamacare and potentially cost the federal government more,” have “launched a preemptory strike against forthcoming predictions from Congress’s independent scorekeeper, the Congressional Budget Office.” Some Republicans are releasing their own budget estimates, and several GOP senators have said Trump’s Office of Management and Budget is expected to issue its own estimates, as well. The article notes that while “Republicans are making clear that they don’t have a ton of confidence in the agency’s estimates,” they “acknowledge CBO scores are still the standard for congressional debates.”

OREGON GOVERNOR SAYS ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN WOULD BE HARMFUL. The [AP](#) (3/7) reports Oregon Gov. Kate Brown on Tuesday said the GOP’s Affordable Care Act replacement plan moves healthcare backwards, while the state’s “only republican member of Congress,” Rep. Greg Walden, “voiced strong support for it.”

AARP SLAMS ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN, CALLING IT “HARMFUL.” [The Hill](#) (3/7, Wilson, 1.25M) reports “AARP is going on the warpath” against the Affordable Care Act replacement plan, accusing House Republicans “of crafting legislation that increases insurance premiums for consumers, while giving a ‘sweetheart deal’ to ‘big drug companies and special interests.’” AARP highlighted several elements of the plan it identified as harmful, including “provisions that would scale back the Medicaid expansion and cut back the amount of federal funding per enrollee” as well as a provision which would allow insurance companies “to charge patients in their 50s and early 60s up to five times more than younger policy holders.”

The [Huffington Post](#) (3/7, Marans, Barron-Lopez, 237K) quotes AARP Executive Vice President Nancy LeaMond, who said, “Older Americans need affordable health care services and prescriptions. This plan goes in the opposite direction, increasing insurance premiums for older Americans and not doing anything to lower drug costs. ... Medicaid cuts could impact people of all ages and put at risk the health and safety of 17.4 million children and adults with disabilities and

seniors by eliminating much needed services that allow individuals to live independently in their homes and communities. This harmful legislation would make health care less secure and less affordable."

KNOXVILLE, VUMC PATIENTS COULD GET NEW INSURANCE OPTIONS UNDER ACA REPLACEMENT.

The [Tennessean](#) (3/7, Fletcher, 407K) reports a section of the GOP's Affordable Care Act replacement plan "could open a path for people in the greater Knoxville area to access an insurance plan with a premium subsidy in 2018" and could also "help people afford plans that cover Vanderbilt University Medical Center in the greater Nashville area." Under the legislation, premium tax credits could be used to purchase "certain qualified health plans" not offered through an exchange.

NEVADA GOVERNOR UNDECIDED ABOUT ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN.

The [Reno \(NV\) Gazette-Journal](#) (3/7, Richardson, 219K) reports Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval on Tuesday said he has not reviewed the Affordable Care Act replacement plan "but still plans on fighting to keep insurance for those covered under the Medicaid expansion." Sandoval declined to take a position on the legislation but said he would oppose any loss of Medicaid coverage.

CALIFORNIA HEALTHCARE ADVOCATES BLAST ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN.

The [AP](#) (3/7, Cooper) reports California healthcare advocates on Tuesday "blasted" the Affordable Care Act replacement plan, "warning it would have an especially tough impact in the nation's largest state." Advocacy groups noted the legislation "would likely mean some people lose health coverage while others face higher costs."

OVER 81,000 KENTUCKIANS PURCHASE HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS.

The [AP](#) (3/7) reports the Cabinet for Health and Family Services announced on Tuesday that over 81,000 Kentuckians have purchased health insurance through HealthCare.gov. This marks the first year Kentucky residents have been able to purchase health insurance through the Federal marketplace, and HHS Secretary Vickie Yates Brown Glisson "said the numbers show the transition was a success."

REP. MASSIE DOUBTS TRUMP'S ALLEGIANCE TO ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (3/7, Jashinsky, 400K) reports Rep. Thomas Massie (R-KY) has expressed doubts about the President's allegiance to the Affordable Care Act replacement plan announced on Monday. During an interview Tuesday, Massie told the Examiner, "I'm just not yet buying that this is Trump's plan." Massie also "cited broader divergences between the 'Better Way' agenda pushed by House Speaker Paul Ryan...and the agenda on which Donald Trump campaigned and won."

ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN TO HAVE BIGGEST IMPACT ON THOSE WHO BUY COVERAGE, GET MEDICAID.

The [North Jersey \(NJ\) Media Group](#) (3/7, Washburn, 95K) reports the Affordable Care Act replacement plan "would have the biggest impact on those who buy their own coverage or get Medicaid" by "end[ing] the requirement that everyone have health coverage or pay a penalty" and "no longer requir[ing] employers to provide coverage to their workers." It would also "change the subsidies for people who buy their own insurance in ways that benefit middle- and upper-income people who may find current premiums expensive or unaffordable."

HEALTH EXPERTS: ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN SHIFTS INSURANCE COSTS ONTO PATIENTS.

The [Richmond \(VA\) Times-Dispatch](#) (3/7, Demeria, 324K) reports, "health policy professionals, experts and advocates in Virginia have already noted that the" Affordable Care Act replacement plan will shift insurance costs onto the patient. The GOP plan "dramatically changes the way the government helps patients pay for their health care, moving from the subsidies based on income for those buying on the individual market...and instead proposing tax credits based on age."

ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN KEEPS PROVISIONS TARGETING TAX SHELTERS.

[Politico](#)

(3/7, Faler, 2.46M) reports, "House Republicans dropped plans to kill an Affordable Care Act provision targeting tax shelters after Sen. Chuck Grassley opposed the move." The GOP's replacement plan leaves the provision "untouched," meaning the IRS will retain the power "to target aggressive tax-avoidance moves by businesses and wealthy individuals."

EFFECTS OF ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN IN TEXAS "UNCLEAR." The [Texas Tribune](#) (3/7, Evans, Livingston, 12K) reports on the healthcare changes proposed under the GOP's new Affordable Care Act replacement plan, released on Monday, but notes that the "potential impacts" of the plan on Texas healthcare are currently "unclear."

Additional coverage is provided by the [Houston Chronicle](#) (3/7, Deam, 1.91M) and the [San Antonio Express-News](#) (3/7, Martin, 844K).

ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN WOULD CAP MEDICAID PAYMENTS BELOW ACTUAL COSTS. [Modern Healthcare](#) (3/7, Meyer, Subscription Publication, 241K) reports the Affordable Care Act replacement plan "would shrink federal payments to the states significantly over time, increase the uninsured rate, and boost uncompensated care costs, experts say." The legislation would also convert Medicaid "from an open-ended entitlement to a program of federal per-capita payments to the states that would grow slower than actual Medicaid costs."

OPINION: ACA "BATTLE" HAS BROUGHT WEALTH DISTRIBUTION TO CORE OF HEALTHCARE DEBATE. In an opinion piece for the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M), reporter Karen Tumulty writes that the redistribution of wealth "has moved from being a subtext in the national debate over health care to being the core of it," largely as a result of the "health care battle" over the Affordable Care Act and its newly unveiled replacement plan.

MINNESOTANS WHO STUDY ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN SEE HUGE CHANGES FOR STATE. The [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) (3/7, Snowbeck, Howatt, 1.27M) reports, "Across Minnesota on Tuesday, people close to the health care system reacted cautiously, noting that there's a good chance" the Affordable Care Act replacement plan in its current form "will never pass Congress." However, the legislation as it stands threatens "to roll back Medicaid coverage for thousands of Minnesotans," and state nursing homes and hospitals "are bracing for change simply because Minnesota gets hundreds of millions of dollars from the Medicaid program," which "pays a large share of their bills."

HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY WIDELY OPPOSED TO ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN. The [Huffington Post](#) (3/7, Bobic, 237K) reports, "Major trade groups representing the health care industry on Tuesday voiced serious concerns, and in some cases outright opposition, to" the Affordable Care Act replacement plan, "joining a chorus of critics from both the left and the right." The article notes that the American Health Care Association was among the groups voicing opposition to the measure, taking particular issue with "the fate of Medicaid." Mark Parkinson, President and CEO of AHCA, said in a statement, "More than one million individuals call nursing centers their home and most rely on Medicaid for their care. This bill will cut Medicaid funding for seniors and individuals with disabilities, jeopardizing access to the care they need."

HEALTH EXPERTS: ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN SHIFTS COST BURDEN ONTO STATES. The [Buffalo \(NY\) News](#) (3/7, Zremski, 470K) reports the Affordable Care Act replacement plan would shift the insurance cost burden onto the states, noting New York state legislators under the plan would be forced "to make hugely costly and politically perilous decisions about the future of health care for millions of New Yorkers." For New York in particular, the article notes state lawmakers "would have to decide whether to cut services, eligibility or doctor payments under the extraordinarily generous Medicaid program that serves 6.4 million lower-income New Yorkers – or whether they want to find enormous sums of money to keep the program the same as it is now."

SUMMARY OF THE ARIZONA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION'S STANCES ON ACA REPLACEMENT. The [Arizona Republic](#) (3/7, Hansen, Nowicki, 1.1M) reports, "Arizona's

congressional delegation has been slow to outline their views on a Republican plan to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act." The article outlines "where the Arizona delegation stands so far" on the issue.

ACA REPLACEMENT PLANE RECEIVES CRITICISM FROM DEMOCRATS, REPUBLICANS IN MARYLAND. The [Baltimore Sun](#) (3/7, Cohn, 714K) reports the Affordable Care Act replacement plan has received criticism from both Democrats and Republicans in Maryland. The article notes that "health care advocates and Democratic lawmakers in Maryland called" the plan "a threat to coverage for more than 400,000 state residents, while top Republicans, including Gov. Larry Hogan, argued that the law must be changed to preserve access to health insurance."

TEXAS LAWMAKERS CONSIDERING "RIDERS" TO AVOID SPECIAL SESSION OVER ACA. The [Houston Chronicle](#) (3/7, Ward, 1.91M) reports Texas lawmakers are considering "the use of special budget 'riders'" as a tactic to avoid a special legislative session over the "likely repeal" of the Affordable Care Act.

DEL. GOVERNOR DENOUNCES ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN. The [AP](#) (3/7) reports Delaware Gov. John Carney believes the Affordable Care Act replacement plan "would have dire consequences for his constituents." In a written statement released Tuesday, Carney "said the plan would reduce access to health care for Delaware families and 'cost Delaware taxpayers millions each year.'"

ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN DRAWS CRITICISM FROM ALL SIDES. The [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#) (3/8, Twedt, 493K) reports the Affordable Care Act replacement plan "has set off seismic tremors, with some saying the new legislation will mean more uninsured Americans while others maintain it doesn't go far enough to replace a deeply flawed and collapsing health care program." The article notes that "ultimately, it's unclear" whether the new plan "truly represents a solid blueprint alternative to the ACA or, more likely, a work in progress."

ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN RECEIVES LUKEWARM WELCOME IN COLORADO. The [Denver Post](#) (3/7, Matthews, 778K) reports the Affordable Care Act replacement plan "landed with a thud on Tuesday in Colorado, as several GOP lawmakers said they were reserving judgment even as it came under attack from Democrats and hard-line conservatives."

ACA REPEAL COULD AFFECT INSURANCE FOR 150K SONOMA COUNTY RESIDENTS. The [Santa Rosa \(CA\) Press Democrat](#) (3/8, Espinoza, 189K) reports a repeal of the Affordable Care Act "could cost Sonoma County 2,000 jobs and an economic loss of nearly \$200 million," according to University of California health officials.

GOP GROUPS COME OUT AGAINST PROPOSED REPLACEMENT LEGISLATION. The [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Weigel, 11.43M) reports the GOP healthcare alternative has received criticism from both sides of the political aisle with condemnation from the Democrats and GOP groups such as Americans for Prosperity, Heritage Action for America, FreedomWorks, the Club for Growth opposing it. Two Koch Brother-backed organizations, Freedom Partners and American for Prosperity, came out against the legislation as well calling the proposal "Obamacare 2.0." During a press conference Tuesday, members of the House Freedom Caucus stated the legislation did not meet their standards.

INSURERS AND HOSPITALS WARY OF ACA ALTERNATIVE. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/7, Mathews, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports health insurers and hospitals are wary of the proposed replacement legislation for the ACA. Insurers are displeased with the removal of the health insurance mandate and the scaling back of federal subsidies, which helped lower-income individuals afford coverage. J. Mario Molina, CEO of Molina Healthcare Inc., told reporters he believes removing the individual mandate could drive up plan premiums by 30 percent or more in the next year, which could shrink enrollment in ACA plans by more than 75 percent, leaving a higher proportion of sicker individuals still enrolled.

WALL STREET SHOWS LITTLE CHANGE AFTER ACA ALTERNATIVE INTRODUCED. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/7, Grant, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports after Republicans unveiled the alternative to the ACA, Wall Street showed little to no response on Tuesday as healthcare stocks remained relatively unchanged. One of the reasons for the lack of response is that investors expect the law to change during the markup phase, the article says. Another reason is that the CBO has yet to score the bill, so speculating on the legislation may be unwise. The Journal notes that health insurance stocks have outperformed the stock market averages since the ACA became law back in 2010.

AETNA ISSUES COMMENT ON HEALTH REFORM. The [Hartford \(CT\) Courant](#) (3/6, Lee, 445K) reports "Aetna submitted a seven-page comment in response to the Department of Health and Human Services' proposal to shorten the open enrollment period later this year, increase reporting requirements for mid-year enrollments and more." In the comment, Aetna reported that one percent of its customers accounted for 44 percent of all claims costs. Aetna argued that without reinstituting reinsurance provisions customers would continue to see annual premium increases of 20 percent or more. Aetna also called on lawmakers to increase the surcharge from the proposed 30 percent to ranging between 50 and 100 percent.

NEW MEXICO LAWMAKERS CONCERNED WITH ACA ALTERNATIVE. The [AP](#) (3/7, Lee) reports "New Mexico's health care sector and policy makers were warily studying a proposal Tuesday by U.S. House Republicans to replace the Affordable Care Act that has cut the state's uninsured rate in half since 2013." The AP reports the areas of largest concern for lawmakers were "measures to reduce federal matching funds for newcomers to Medicaid health coverage starting in mid-2019, and link overall federal spending on Medicaid to a limited, per-beneficiary amount."

RHODE ISLAND LAWMAKERS CRITICIZE ACA ALTERNATIVE. The [AP](#) (3/7, O'Brien) reports "Rhode Island's Democratic leaders said Tuesday a new Republican health care bill proposed in the U.S. House of Representatives could harm the state." Gov. Gina Raimondo told reporters the GOP plan puts thousands of the state's residents at risk of losing their insurance. Democratic State Sen. Josh Miller told reporters that the only promising provision of the ACA alternative is that it delays the rollback of Medicaid expansion for a few year allowing the state time to craft an alternative.

The [Providence \(RI\) Journal](#) (3/7, Lynnarditi, 386K) reports the GOP alternative to the ACA affects "roughly 100,000 Rhode Islanders who gained insurance under the Affordable Care Act. It also could dramatically disrupt insurance companies – and, in turn, the prices they charge for everyone's coverage – by eliminating a key provision of the federal law: the mandate requiring people to have health insurance." One of the biggest reasons for concern is if the individual mandate is removed, younger and healthier individuals in the state may choose to forgo signing up for coverage, which would increase costs for everyone else, the article explains.

MASSACHUSETTS GOVERNOR AND ATTORNEY GENERAL EXPRESS CONCERN OVER ACA ALTERNATIVE. The [AP](#) (3/7, Salsberg) reports Massachusetts "Republican Gov. Charlie Baker said Tuesday his administration was still reviewing details of the health care bill rolled out by GOP leaders in the U.S. House, but he expressed concern about potential changes in Medicaid funding and the prospect of less flexibility for states to determine their health care needs." The State Attorney General Maura Healy issued a statement warning that the GOP plan would slash funding for healthcare programs in the state.

IDAHO LAWMAKERS HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT ACA ALTERNATIVE AS LEGISLATIVE SESSION WINDS DOWN. The [Idaho Statesman](#) (3/7, Dentzer, 197K) reports "The Republican bid to overhaul national health care is unlikely to spur any immediate action in the Idaho Legislature this year due both to timing and to uncertainty over elements of the new plan, not to mention its overall prospects for passage." Only 13 legislative days remain during the current

session in Idaho. Rep. Fred Wood (R-Burley), chair of the House Health and Welfare Committee in Idaho told reporters, "There are so many questions that have to be asked and answered before the state can do anything."

GOP ALTERNATIVE COULD LEAVE ADDICTS WITHOUT ACCESS TO TREATMENT. [Vox](#) (3/7, 1.15M) reports "House Republicans are preparing a bill that could make the current and next drug crisis worse." Vox writes, "early impressions suggest the bill will allow insurers to effectively cut coverage for addiction care. And since many of the bill's cuts go through Medicaid and Obamacare's tax credits for health insurance, it will have a disproportionate impact on low-income Americans – those least likely to be able to afford addiction treatment in the first place." Experts say that insurance companies do not want to insure addicts because of their high costs, and the GOP alternative would allow them to do just that.

SPEAKER RYAN'S HEALTHCARE ALTERNATIVE ATTEMPTS TO ADDRESS THE POVERTY TRAP CREATED BY MEANS TESTING BENEFITS. [Vox](#) (3/7, Yglesias, 1.15M) reports "Ryancare doesn't give the neediest families enough help to afford decent insurance while blowing a substantial chunk of change on families who don't really need much help." Ryan's alternative attempts to address what he calls a "poverty trap," a term describing the incentive for individuals to stay below a certain income level in order to maintain their benefits. Some argue such incentives may explain in part why the middle class has not seen much growth over the past few years.

RYAN'S ACA ALTERNATIVE CHANGES NAME OF INDIVIDUAL MANDATE TO SURCHARGE, EFFECTIVELY THE SAME THING. The [Huffington Post](#) (3/7, Grim, 237K) reports despite GOP efforts to remove the individual mandate, the alternative to the ACA does not remove the individual mandate because failing to sign up for insurance can cause someone to incur a 30 percent penalty upon ultimately signing up for coverage, which Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) has dubbed the Continuous Coverage Incentive. The Post writes that the plan is exactly the same as the ACA's mandate because it does not force you to buy insurance, but rather pay a penalty at the end of the year for not having insurance. Ryan has merely changed the name from mandate to "surcharge," the piece argues.

DEMOCRATS PLAN OUT OBSTRUCTION STRATEGY. [Congressional Quarterly](#) (3/7, Mershon, Williams, Subscription Publication, 967) reports "House Democrats are gearing up to make Wednesday's dueling health care committee debates as painful as possible for Republicans." CQ writes Democratic Members of the Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce Committees will attempt to derail the legislation by introducing dozens of "politically tough amendments." The strategy for Democrats is to force Republicans to vote against bipartisan issues and to drag out their speaking time as much as they can. CQ explains, "All 24 Democrats on the Energy and Commerce committee plan to give an opening statement Wednesday."

CONSERVATIVE LAWMAKERS TO INTRODUCE STRAIGHT ACA REPEAL. [The Hill](#) (3/7, Sullivan, 1.25M) reports "Conservative lawmakers said Tuesday they will introduce their own ObamaCare repeal plan, objecting to House GOP leadership's proposal." Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH) and Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY) plan to introduce a "clean bill to repeal" the ACA, similar to what Congress passed in 2015 before it was vetoed by President Obama. The Hill writes more conservative members of Congress "object to several aspects of Republican leadership's plan, including a refundable tax credit to help people buy insurance that they dub a 'new entitlement.'"

SEN. TILLIS URGES MEMBERS TO SUPPORT ACA ALTERNATIVE DESPITE BILL NOT BEING PERFECT. [The Hill](#) (3/7, Carney, 1.25M) reports Sen. Thom Tillis (R-NC) told his GOP colleagues they would "be making a mistake if they become content with failing to produce the perfect at the expense of achieving good, practical solutions to reform our nation's broken health care system." The Hill writes that despite Tillis' statement, "Rep. Jim Jordan (R-Ohio) and Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) said they will introduce a clean bill to repeal ObamaCare, as Congress did in

2015."

AMERICAN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES OPPOSITION TO SPEAKER RYAN'S ACA ALTERNATIVE. [The Hill](#) (3/7, Wilson, 1.25M) reports "The American Hospital Association announced Tuesday its opposition to the GOP's healthcare reform plan." Richard Pollack, the president and CEO of the American Hospital Association, wrote in a letter to House Republicans, "We ask Congress to protect our patients, and find ways to maintain coverage for as many Americans as possible." Pollack wrote that he looks forward to working with members of Congress, but he cannot support the current form of The American Health Care Act. Pollack asked members of Congress to hold off on moving forward until the Congressional Budget Office is able to issue a score on the legislation.

[Vox](#) (3/7, Lopez, 1.15M) reports the AHA isn't the only group opposing the new proposal so soon. Major conservative groups such as Heritage Action have already dubbed the bill as "Obamacare lite." Vox writes, "a Standard & Poor's analysis concluded that the bill will cost 6 million to 10 million people their health insurance, out of the 22 million who gained access to health coverage through Obamacare."

SPEAKER RYAN GUARANTEES ACA ALTERNATIVE WILL PASS THE HOUSE. [Politico](#) (3/7, Quigley, 2.46M) reports "House Speaker Paul Ryan said Tuesday he can 'guarantee' the GOP's Obamacare alternative bill will get the 218 votes needed to pass the House." Ryan pushed back on claims that Republicans are trying to pass the legislation as quickly as possible by saying the bill will be allowed to go through the committee process.

[The Hill](#) (3/7, Wong, 1.25M) reports the bold prediction comes in the face of recent conservative and liberal groups announcing their opposition to the proposed changes. However, the Speaker argued that the GOP has no other choice but to fulfill their campaign promise and pass the legislation saying, "We ran on a repeal and replace plan. That's what this is: the repeal and replace plan."

SEN. MCCONNELL FACES DAUNTING CHALLENGE OF GETTING FELLOW REPUBLICANS TO FALL IN LINE WITH REPLACEMENT LEGISLATION. [The Hill](#) (3/7, Bolton, 1.25M) reports Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) only has three weeks to unify his party behind the ACA's replacement bill. McConnell can only afford to lose two votes, but so far, eight Republican Senators have voiced concerns with the alternative. Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-NY) has vowed to fight "tooth and nail" against replacing the ACA. The Hill writes, "McConnell called in the heavy artillery Tuesday by inviting [Vice President] Pence to a Senate GOP lunch to persuade wavering colleagues to get behind the House bill." During the meeting, Pence told Republicans that President Trump feels lawmakers should not scrap the bill and start over. McConnell told the press that Republicans have an "obligation" to replace the ACA, and to replace it with something that is better than "the status quo."

SEN. KAINE ATTACKED GOP ACA ALTERNATIVE ON TWITTER. [The Hill](#) (3/7, Beavers, 1.25M) reports, "Former Democratic vice presidential nominee Tim Kaine (D-VA) slammed what he called 'Trumpcare' on Tuesday, charging that the GOP's ObamaCare replacement plan would help the wealthy with tax cuts while financially burdening average Americans." Kaine sent out a flurry of tweets attacking the ACA alternative and expressed his "serious concerns" with the legislation. Kaine told reporters, "I will not support a plan that dismantles Medicaid, raises costs for Virginia's middle-class families and seniors, and defunds Planned Parenthood while massively cutting taxes for the wealthy."

REPUBLICANS AND DEMOCRATS COME UP WITH NICKNAMES FOR ACA ALTERNATIVE. [Roll Call](#) (3/7, Pathé, 63K) reports, "Hours after House Republicans released their health care plan, Republican and Democratic critics were coming up with their own nicknames for the repeal and replace bill, each of which is riddled with not-so-subtle political messages ahead of next year's midterm elections." Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY) has dubbed the ACA replacement

"Trumpcare," while the conservative anti-tax group The Club for Growth has deemed the GOP plan "Ryanare."

OPINION: NURSING HOME CARE AMONG BIGGEST CONCERN WITH ACA ALTERNATIVE FOR SENIORS. Ann Brenoff writes for The [Huffington Post](#) (3/7, 237K) Healthy Living section that "AARP and other senior advocacy groups are gearing up to fight what could be premium hikes of 25 percent or more for those still too young to qualify for Medicare." Brenoff continues, "Changes to Medicaid...could exacerbate the long-term care crisis in which many Americans who need nursing homes can't afford them." Brenoff argues, "many people in need of nursing home services who lack private long-term care insurance (which is most of us) must use up their assets until they qualify for Medicaid, which does cover some nursing home stays." Brenoff concludes by posing the question, "What's going to happen to all those elderly people who can't afford a nursing home?"

OPINION: RYAN CALLS HIS ACA ALTERNATIVE AN ACT OF MERCY, IT ISN'T. Jonathan Cohen writes for The [Huffington Post](#) (3/7, 237K) that House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) has called his alternative to the ACA an "Act of mercy," but Cohen contends the plan is anything but merciful. Cohen argues that since the proposal would roll back the expansion of Medicaid and shift the tax credits, it could end up costing 10 million Americans health insurance. He says that on the whole, access to care has clearly improved and Americans are "less likely to struggle with medical bills, and more likely to have a regular source of care." Cohen points out that while it may be cheaper to obtain insurance on the front end, when someone goes to get treatment, the cost of getting treatment will make the savings from buying a cheaper plan evaporate due to the elimination of minimum coverage requirements.

HOUSE FREEDOM CAUCUS MEMBERS BELIEVE RYAN'S ALTERNATIVE DOES NOT HAVE THE NECESSARY VOTES TO PASS. [The Hill](#) (3/7, Hellmann, 1.25M) reports, "House Freedom Caucus members said Tuesday the GOP's ObamaCare repeal and replace plan does not have the votes necessary to pass the lower chamber." Republicans in the House can only lose 20 votes before the ACA alternative would be defeated, and the House Freedom caucus expects the majority of their 40 members to oppose Speaker Paul Ryan's (R-WI) plan. Rep. Mo Brooks (R-AL) told reporters, "Right now the Speaker of the House does not have the votes to pass this bill unless he's got substantial Democratic support."

[Politico](#) (3/7, Bade, 2.46M) reports the House Freedom Caucus wants "to scrap the Obamacare taxes more quickly and ditch health care tax credits for low- and middle-income Americans, a key pillar of the GOP replacement." A source inside the House Freedom caucus told reporters that they think the White House support for Ryan's ACA alternative is tepid, and they believe President Trump is not really invested in the proposal.

HEALTH INSURANCE INDUSTRY RAISES QUESTIONS ABOUT ACA ALTERNATIVE. [Reuters](#) (3/7, Erman, Humer) reports, "House Republican health insurance plan suggests health insurance after Obamacare will be less affordable, investors, insurers and industry sources said on Tuesday, raising questions about future enrollment and insurance company participation." The BlueCross BlueShield Association told reporters they were glad to see the extension of many of the ACA's provisions into 2019, but the GOP alternative needs to emphasize the need for affordability. Reuters writes, "Standard & Poor's estimated that the draft plan would reduce individual enrollment, now at around 10 million, by 2 to 4 million people."

The [Connecticut Mirror](#) (3/7, Radelat) also reports.

COMMENTARY CONSIDERS ACA. Several outlets offer opinions on health reform.

Margot Sanger-Katz writes in the [New York Times](#) (3/7, Sanger-Katz, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) "The Upshot" blog that GOP lawmakers in Congress "are fond of calling Obamacare a death spiral of escalating costs and declining coverage," yet "their replacement plan could make

those problems even worse." She points out that the draft legislation is "receiving a tepid, even hostile reaction from many outside conservative groups and Republicans in Congress." Sanger-Katz adds that the measure "does less than many conservatives had hoped to open up the market for health insurance."

Ross Douthat writes in a [New York Times](#) (3/8, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) op-ed that he has "compared Donald Trump to [Jimmy] Carter before, but with the release of the House Republican 'replacement' (I use that term loosely) for Obamacare, it's worth returning to the analogy." Douthat argues that "just as Carter's mix of proto-New Democrat centrism and old-school liberalism never translated into a workable congressional agenda, Trump's bridge to a new conservatism will crumble if his party can't agree on policies that fit his vision." He adds, "The health care debate makes this danger particularly clear," and suggests that despite their majority in Congress, Republicans may not be able to push through health reform.

David Weigel writes in the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) "Power Post" that conservative groups and policy analysts "have judged the American Health Care Act – and found it badly wanting." Since Monday evening, when the plan was unveiled, "they've issued blistering statements, ticking off the ways they believe the party failed them." According to Michael Needham, president of Heritage Action for America, a group which has sought to repeal the ACA since it was enacted, "The House Republican proposal released last night not only accepts the flawed progressive premises of Obamacare but expands upon them."

In an opinion piece, the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) "The Fix" blog contributor Chris Cillizza writes that the Republicans' healthcare bill is "not really" a "repeal and replace" bill as has been claimed. Cillizza argues that the bill would be "more accurately described as a revision or an altering of the Affordable Care Act," because "Republicans are keeping the most popular elements of the law" that prohibit insurers from discriminating against people with preexisting conditions and allowing people under the age of 26 to remain on their parents' insurance plans.

In an opinion piece, the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) "The Fix" blog contributor Aaron Blake outlines five problems Congressional Republicans could face in trying to pass their healthcare bill. Blake argues several factors stand in the way of passage, including the fact the ACA "is more popular than ever," many Congressional Republicans dislike the bill, and it's unclear whether the White House fully supports the measure.

In an opinion piece, the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) "The Fix" blog contributor Amber Phillips writes that three Republican factions could potentially block the House Republican leadership's new healthcare bill. Phillips argues that "Western/Midwest GOP senators" from states that expanded Medicaid, "conservative/libertarian senators," or "moderate Planned Parenthood supporters" could all potentially block the bill for different reasons.

Nicholas Bagley, a law professor at the University of Michigan, writes in an opinion piece in the [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/7, 4.52M) that the Republicans' healthcare "bill would give a huge tax cut to the wealthy and gut the federal spending that the poor and the middle class depend on for their health insurance." Bagley asserts that the Republicans' plan could result in tens of millions of people losing their healthcare coverage, and that the "bill would undo most of Obamacare's gains."

Nathan Nascimento, Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce's vice president for policy, writes in an opinion piece in [The Hill](#) (3/7, 1.25M) that Congress should "pass the kind of targeted reforms necessary to truly address the underlying problems of our healthcare system" rather than trying to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. Nascimento argues that it's unlikely Congress will be able to pass the bill proposed by House leaders, but that Congress could "be proactive by introducing many bills addressing specific problems with healthcare today."

Kayleigh McEnany, a CNN political commentator, writes in an opinion piece in [The Hill](#) (3/7,

1.25M) that the Republicans' proposed ACA replacement, the American Health Care Act, "represents a new brand of conservatism." McEnany argues that the bill "is indeed conservative, but with an appropriate mix of populism, whereby the voice of the American people has the final say above narrow-minded ideology."

Daniel R. Wilson, the Director of Federal Affairs for PHI, writes in an opinion piece in [The Hill](#) (3/7, 1.25M) "Congress Blog" that many paid caregivers gained access to health coverage because of the Affordable Care Act allowing many of them to enroll in Medicaid. Wilson argues that many in Congress assume Medicaid beneficiaries are not working. Paid caregivers, for example, are a segment that demonstrates that many Medicaid beneficiaries are indeed working, but simply do not earn enough to afford health coverage.

In the [Forbes](#) (3/7, 15.17M) "The Apothecary" blog, contributor Avik Roy writes that House Republicans' healthcare bill would "make health insurance unaffordable for millions of Americans, and trap millions more in poverty." Roy argues that the bill's "critical mistake" is the use of "flat, non-means-tested tax credits" to help people purchase insurance, which "will price many poor and vulnerable people out of the health insurance market."

Jake Novak writes in his column on the [CNBC](#) (3/7, 2.17M) website that the Republican healthcare plan would help individual health savings accounts, but would also cause many people to lose their healthcare coverage. Novak argues that "the ugliest thing about this new plan is just like the Obamacare, Medicare, Medicaid, and every other government-run or aided insurance program," it's "all about coverage and not about actual care."

In an opinion piece, the [Washington Examiner](#) (3/7, 400K) managing editor Philip Klein writes that the House Republican leaders' healthcare bill shows that "liberalism has already won." Klein argues that "barring radical changes, Republicans will not be passing a bill that ushers in a new era of market-based healthcare."

In the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) "Plum Line" blog, contributor Paul Waldman writes that Republicans' new healthcare plan is "so far from terrific that there doesn't seem to be anyone other than Paul Ryan himself who thinks this bill isn't a disaster." Waldman argues that House Republicans "have written a bill that would make every problem they've complained about much, much worse," and only "the wealthy people" who would receive "a gigantic tax cut" under the bill "will be happy."

In an opinion piece in the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M), correspondent Philip Bump writes that "it's much easier to deal with poverty if you can convince yourself that the impoverished brought it on themselves." Bump argues that Rep. Jason Chaffetz's (R-UT) Tuesday comment suggesting that people should spend more on healthcare rather than buying a new iPhone reflects his view that poverty is a choice. Bump contends that Chaffetz's comment frames "the poor as ignorant and wasteful so that he can bolster the case for revamping health care policy."

In the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) "The Fix" blog, contributor Aaron Blake writes that a comment made by Rep. Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) on Tuesday morning suggesting that people should spend money on healthcare before buying an iPhone and what he said about it later demonstrates "how years of Obamacare have forced Republicans to overhaul their rhetoric." Blake argues that "the fact that Chaffetz even saw the need to back off his original remark is notable here," because it shows that Republicans are no longer comfortable arguing that people are solely responsible for their own healthcare.

Dr. Haider Javed Warraich, a fellow in cardiovascular disease at Duke University Medical Center, writes in an opinion piece in [STAT](#) "First Opinion" that Republicans' healthcare plan "would further widen the fissures that exist not only in our health system but in our society at large." Warraich argues that taking away health coverage from many poor Americans would exacerbate health disparities between the wealthiest and poorest Americans.

In the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) "Right Turn" blog, contributor Jennifer Rubin writes that the House Republicans' healthcare reform bill "seems bereft of friends," and that "Democrats may enjoy the demise of the [bill] before it leaves the House." Rubin argues that Congressional Republicans have opposing views about healthcare and that "there is no magic bill that would please hard-line conservatives and GOP moderates."

In the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) "Plum Line" blog, contributor Greg Sargent writes that "the structure of the GOP replacement all but ensures that the Obamacare wars will continue right through the 2018 and 2020 elections – in ways that numerous Republicans might come to regret." Sargent argues that the Republicans' plan could be a contentious point during the elections of 2018 and 2020, because the bill would delay making certain changes until then.

In the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) "Right Turn" blog, contributor Jennifer Rubin writes that there are still many unanswered questions regarding the House Republicans' healthcare bill. Rubin lists a series of questions about the bill she posed to House Speaker Paul Ryan's (R-WI) office and says that the office responded by saying it does not yet have a CBO score.

Jonathan Bernstein writes in his column in [Bloomberg View](#) (3/7, 125K) that the House Republicans' bill aims to solve a political problem rather than a policy problem. Bernstein argues that House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) does not expect the bill to be passed, but is instead proposing it to ensure that Republicans attempt to fulfill their campaign promise of repealing the Affordable Care Act.

Megan McArdle writes in her column in [Bloomberg View](#) (3/7, 125K) that the House Republicans' proposal lets Congressional Republicans claim that they fulfilled their campaign promise to repeal Obamacare as promised even though it is unlikely to pass. McArdle argues that many Republicans and conservative groups dislike the bill, but Republicans will still be able to take credit for introducing the bill as an effort to repeal the ACA.

In [U.S. News & World Report](#) (3/7, 1.02M), managing editor for opinion Robert Schlesinger writes that Congressional Republicans "have finally unveiled a plan to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act," but many conservatives are criticizing the plan as "Obamacare Lite." Schlesinger contends that Republicans are deliberately being opaque in their healthcare reform efforts, because "the details are likely toxic."

Hadley Heath Manning, the Independent Women's Forum's director of health policy, writes in an opinion piece in [The Hill](#) (3/7, 1.25M) that the Republicans' health plan "would repeal most of ObamaCare's taxes, subsidies, and mandates, and offer a refundable age-based tax credit instead." Manning argues that the bill "is a good starting point for discussion, and it includes some helpful policy changes."

Nancy Altman, the founding co-director of Social Security Works, writes in an opinion piece in the [Huffington Post](#) (3/7, 237K) that "if Republican elites in Congress were honest about their agenda, no senior would ever vote Republican." Altman argues that the bill would undermine "the economic and health security of those who have spent a lifetime contributing to our nation."

Mark Davis, "a radio host and frequent columnist," writes in an opinion piece in the [Dallas Morning News](#) (3/7, 1.12M) that the Republican bill would repeal "the individual mandate, which was always the most noxious element of the so-called Affordable Care Act, which proved to have quite the opposite effect for millions of Americans." Davis argues that the individual mandate "was always a grotesque government overreach."

Daniel H. Gouger, a 2017 graduating physician from East Tennessee State University Quillen College of Medicine, writes in an opinion piece in the [Tennessean](#) (3/7, 407K) that about 526,000 Tennessee residents could lose healthcare coverage by 2019 if the ACA is repealed, according

to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

E.J. Montini writes in his column in the [Arizona Republic](#) (3/7, 1.1M) that it's "not too soon to ask" whether Sens. John McCain (R-AZ) and Jeff Flake (R-AZ) would support repealing the ACA's Medicaid expansion, which could result in 400,000 Arizona residents losing their healthcare coverage. Montini argues that former Gov. Jan Brewer (R) worked hard to expand Medicaid in the state and that Arizona's Senators should protect that expanded healthcare coverage.

Michael Hiltzik writes in his column in the [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/7, 4.52M) that the House Republicans' healthcare bill "encourages health insurance companies to pay their top executives more." Hiltzik says the bill removes "the ACA's limit on corporate tax deductions for executive pay," and explains how eliminating the provision would allow insurance companies to pay their executives more.

In the [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (3/7, 1.41M), contributor Jay Bookman writes that Republicans have been reluctant to release their healthcare plan, because it "is one ugly baby." Bookman asserts that the bill would take away health coverage from millions of Americans while giving a tax break to the wealthiest Americans.

Steph Herold, an activist and social scientist, writes in an opinion piece in [The Hill](#) (3/7, 1.25M) that the House Republicans' bill "is not so much a new healthcare plan as it is a plan to tank the health and well-being of millions of Americans." Herold argues that the bill would dismantle "vital safety net programs" while also giving "states greater autonomy to deny health insurance coverage to their citizens."

In an op-ed for [USA Today](#) (3/7, 5.28M) House Speaker Paul Ryan writes, "I told my colleagues that it's no longer good enough to just say what we're against. We had to show what we're for." Ryan explains the number one priority for Congress to address is the future of the ACA due to his belief that the law is "collapsing." Ryan writes, "Our goal is to give every American access to quality, affordable health care. For families, that means lower costs, more choices and greater control." Ryan concludes, "The American Health Care Act offers a better way. It keeps our promise, begins to clean up the mess Obamacare has made, and builds a better system for all Americans. Now we must deliver."

In an editorial the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) writes Paul Ryan's American Health Care Act is "suspicious similarities to Obamacare. But it marks a sharp departure in at least one crucial respect: fiscal responsibility." The Post argues that to finance the spending provisions of the bill, legislators will have to cut Medicaid and other programs that assist the poor and near-poor. Even more egregious, according to the Post, "Republicans are poised to mark up their bill without a full analysis from the Congressional Budget Office of its budgetary impact or – crucially – of how many people the proposal would (or would not) cover." The Post concludes that replacing the ACA would allow a couple of members of Congress to boast they changed the ACA, but it will also have a substantial impact on the ACA's beneficiaries and the federal deficit.

In a guest opinion for the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) former acting administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Andy Slavitt writes that the GOP alternative to the ACA has finally made its debut, and the impact it will have is drastically different than what was promised. Slavitt argues that many of the details may be missed at first glance, but the CBO will make them painfully obvious once they issue their score of the bill. Slavitt points out, "the tax-credit structure in the bill would not only make health care less affordable for millions, particularly those over 55, it would also destabilize the insurance markets." Slavitt adds that repealing the individual mandate in favor of a surcharge will send premiums higher and lead to even more insurers to exit the system as healthier individuals take their chances without insurance. For Slavitt, the most draconian measure in the bill is "a permanent capping of the Medicaid program." Slavitt concludes by urging elected officials to oppose the bill and to "listen to ordinary Americans

and independent experts before acting."

In an opinion piece for the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) Dana Milbank writes that President Trump's realization that healthcare is highly complex has been known to many for a long time, which is why Republicans kept their draft of the ACA replacement plan a secret for so long. Milbank argues that the GOP efforts to sell the bill are woefully inadequate, pointing to Rep. Jason Chaffetz's (R-UT) argument that Americans should buy health coverage "rather than getting that new iPhone that they just love," as a prime example. Other Republicans such as Louie Gohmert (R-TX) have come out to oppose the legislation, with Gohmert calling the bill "horse excrement."

In an editorial the [New York Times](#) (3/7, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) writes that the bill the GOP released on Monday "would kick millions of people off the coverage they currently have. So much for President Trump's big campaign promise: 'We're going to have insurance for everybody' – with coverage that would be 'much less expensive and much better.'" The Times argues, "The working poor tend to drop in and out of Medicaid because their incomes fluctuate, and the Republican plan would bar people who left the expanded program from going back in." The Times continues that since the individual mandate has been dropped, the incentive to buy insurance only when one becomes sick increases substantially, and that is "a sure way to destroy the insurance market." The Times concludes that richer Americans are the true winners in the debate over the ACA replacement because the bill would eliminate taxes on businesses and individuals making more than \$200,000 a year.

In an op-ed for the [New York Times](#) (3/7, Emanuel, Glickman, Gudbranson, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) Ezekiel Emanuel, Aaron Glickman And Emily Gudbranson write, "It looks as if Republicans want to bring back health care rationing." The contributors explain, "Medicaid rolls will shrink. ... Changes in the allotment will be tied to changes in the medical part of the Consumer Price Index, which, for various reasons, is unlikely to increase as quickly as the cost of health care. This shortfall in federal funding will force more states to make the kinds of rationing choices Arizona and Indiana made." The contributors conclude, "State flexibility is a ruse. Per-person allotments are an elaborate cost-shifting mechanism. ... This would be even worse than going back to the days before the Affordable Care Act."

In an op-ed for [Bloomberg View](#) (3/7, 125K) Albert Hunt writes, "Republicans are playing games and using gimmicks as they struggle to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act." Hunt cites the fact that the GOP is pushing forward on their plans without waiting for a CBO score as evidence of their struggle. Hunt continues, "The Trump White House, so far, is backing the Republican efforts, and there is already talk that it plans to attack the CBO's analysis and budget estimates, which are likely to complicate subsequent Republican tax and spending initiatives."

In an editorial [USA Today](#) (3/7, 5.28M) writes, the GOP plan to replace the ACA deals with an incredibly complex subject, and their proposal will have "myriad unintended consequences." As a result, USA Today points out the GOP strategy is to "rush it through," which is in stark contract to the "lengthy public hearings and private negotiations" Democrats undertook during their efforts to craft the ACA. As a result, USA Today points out, "The Senate Finance Committee did not pass Obamacare until that October. ... In the end, Obamacare passed on a straight party vote, but not until March of President Obama's second year, after lengthy debate and analysis." The GOP, on the other hand, wants to have the replacement legislation signed into law by late April or May. But their plans will hit a road block, as more conservative Republicans who want a straight repeal of the ACA.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/7, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) editorializes that the GOP is in a do-or-die moment after introducing an alternative to the ACA. The question for many is whether or not the GOP can deliver on their campaign promise to improve the lives of Americans. The Journal argues that the proposal will help correct many of the problems created in the healthcare system after the ACA went into effect. Even though the legislation is not perfect, it can be

improved through the amendment process. Despite the claims of many more conservative members, a straight repeal of the ACA cannot take place because more moderate Republicans cannot afford to be seen as throwing millions off the Medicaid rolls, the piece says.

Holman Jenkins writes in an opinion piece for the [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/7, Jenkins, Jr., Subscription Publication, 6.37M) that the GOP alternative to the ACA is not perfect but it is better than the status quo. Jenkins argues that having insurance under the ACA is worse than having no insurance at all because the deductibles are so high that it makes no economic sense to carry insurance, which is why Jenkins argues the only people who buy insurance through the ACA marketplace are those who qualify for subsidies or are sick enough that having insurance works out in their favor. Jenkins concludes by arguing the only people who should receive subsidies are the poor and those whose conditions make them uninsurable, and the incentives should not be such that people only get insurance when they become sick.

In an opinion piece for The [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/7, McManus, 4.52M) Doyle McManus writes, "There's a new rule in American politics: Whichever party owns healthcare will come to regret it." McManus argues that Obama succeeded in his basic aim to help Americans obtain insurance, but now that Republicans are in power and promised to offer a better alternative, they have found themselves overpromising on what they can deliver. McManus concludes, "The inevitable result is that fewer people will buy health insurance – and many of those will opt for cheaper, bare-bones insurance policies with high deductibles," which will offer the Democrats a talking point for elections to come.

The [Washington Times](#) (3/7, 272K) editorializes that passing an ACA alternative will require members of the GOP to put aside their differences and agree on an alternative due to their 19-seat majority in the House and two-seat majority in the Senate. The Times argues, "The inclusion of health savings accounts would give consumers the incentive to budget their medical dollars wisely." The Times concludes, "Congressional credibility has an expiration date, and there's no time to lose to redeem the Republican pledge to relieve Americans from the burden of a failed socialist-style experiment in health care."

In an opinion piece for the [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Hallow, 272K) Ralph Hallow writes that the GOP healthcare bill should be called "Abominable Care" for those who are believers in free market principles, adding that the legislation is so bad that such "conservative stalwarts as FreedomWorks and the Club for Growth took their turn to blast GOP lawmakers for reneging on campaign promises." Hallow blasts the GOP leadership for attempting to save itself and not sticking to their campaign promises to repeal the ACA, and says the President has abandoned his campaign promises.

In an article for the [Huffington Post](#) (3/7, 237K) Howard Fineman writes that the GOP alternative to the ACA is not "dead on arrival" because the proposal had to be alive before it could be declared dead. Therefore, according to Fineman, this plan must be dubbed a "Zombie Plan." Fineman argues, "There is a perhaps fatal flaw in [the GOP] strategy: the new proposal's almost total disconnect from substantive and political reality." Fineman continues, "The plan, such as it is, will surely not 'cover everybody,' as Trump promised it would, unless 'everybody' means well-off people who can actually find a plan that covers their medical costs."

In an opinion piece for the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) emeritus professor at Washington and Lee University School of Law Timothy Jost writes, "The AHCA repeals very little of the ACA, leaving all but three of the ACA's 10 titles almost entirely intact." Jost argues, "the AHCA offers massive tax cuts for the wealthy, significant Medicaid cuts for the poor, a reshuffling of premium-assistance tax credits to offer more help to younger, higher-income individuals and less to the older and poorer – and it still may not save the individual insurance market. It's a step back on every front."

In an opinion piece for the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Ingraham, 11.43M) Chris Ingraham explains

that Rep. Jason Chaffetz's (R-UT) statement that Americans should forgo buying a new iPhone in order to invest in their healthcare demonstrates his disconnect because a basic plan costs about six times more than "Chaffetz's 'new iPhone.'" Ingraham points out, "if you are under 30 years old and make less than \$75,000 a year, you'd be eligible for \$2,000 in tax credits to help offset your expenses. That would take \$4,000 out of your \$18,000 two-year bill, leaving you on the hook for \$14,000, knocking the price down to 18 iPhones."

In an opinion piece for the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Phillips, 11.43M) Amber Phillips writes, "Republicans say their version is much cleaner, clearer and simpler," because Republicans argue "This legislation is a little over 100 pages and every American can read and understand it." Phillips argues that the bill is not able to be understood by the average American because even the first paragraph includes congressional language referring to bills and sections of laws Americans have never heard of. Phillips points out, "The problem for us non-lawyers/non-Hill staffers is that to understand the new piece of legislation, you basically have to have both bills right in front of you and pivot back and forth between them. And how many Americans are going to do that? I sure didn't." Phillips concludes, "No major change to the nation's health-care system is simple, nor, perhaps, should it be."

In an opinion piece for the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Ehrenfreund, 11.43M) Max Ehrenfreund writes, "Republicans' new health-care bill is a mass transfer of income that cuts taxes for the wealthiest Americans while cutting federal benefits for the middle and working class." Ehrenfreund points to a recent analysis done by the Tax Policy Center, which states the richest Americans would pay \$200,000 less in taxes under the GOP alternative. Ehrenfreund does concede that an individual making \$75,000 a year may be equally as well off under the ACA or the alternative, but individuals making half of that would receive the same subsidy as richer Americans. Ehrenfreund continues, "The Republican plan would also reduce taxes on health savings accounts, which some middle-class families use to prepare for medical expenses. This provision, however, would probably have greater benefits for wealthier families, who can save more and can better take advantage of savings accounts that are sheltered from taxes as a result."

Writing for the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Johnson, 11.43M) "Wonkblog," Carolyn Johnson says, "The Republican bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act provides huge tax cuts for health care companies, but the measure still leaves many companies facing difficult – and potentially risky – business decisions to make in years to come." Johnson argues, "Insurers wanted the health insurance tax repealed. Drug companies wanted the prescription drug tax repealed. Medical device makers wanted to kill an excise tax," and for the most part they all got what they wanted. As for the individual mandate, Johnson points out that insurers needed healthy people to balance out the cost of the sick individuals, but the surcharge Republicans propose does not help balance the cost; rather the proposal could result in even greater gaming of the system than was seen under the ACA. Johnson also believes the GOP tax credits ignore "the fact that care costs more in different geographical regions or that someone who makes \$20,000 a year might be more strained in trying to buy an insurance plan with the same amount of financial help as someone who makes \$74,000."

President and CEO of Essential Access Health Julie Rabinovitz writes in [The Hill](#) (3/7, Rabinovitz, Contributor, 1.25M) "Congress Blog" that "There is significant concern that the repeal bill will cause millions to lose their health care coverage and make affordable health insurance out of reach for many," which will negatively impact women. Rabinovitz argues in favor of supporting women's healthcare saying, "Title X is a good investment and cost-saver. Every \$1 invested in the program saves taxpayers more than \$7, that's a net government savings of \$15 billion." Rabinovitz urges readers to "call on our representatives on both sides of the aisle to come together in support of Title X and what should be widely shared domestic goals of reducing unintended pregnancy, saving taxpayer dollars, enhancing women's economic security, and strengthening families and communities."

Director of Our Story Richard Kirch writes for [The Hill](#) (3/7, Kirsch, 1.25M) in its "Pundits Blog," "President Trump and Republicans in Congress have a basic problem they are desperately trying to message around. They have campaigned against President Obama's high premiums and deductibles, but every one of their health proposals would raise the amount most people pay for health coverage and increase reliance on high-deductible plans." Kirsch argues that the promises President Trump made during his campaign for the White House are impossible to deliver on because you cannot get more by paying less for healthcare.

Professor of healthcare policy at Harvard Medical School David Grabowski writes in an opinion piece for the [New York Daily News](#) (3/7, Grabowski, 4.45M) that "Medicaid is a great value. ... Research suggests Medicaid is more efficient than Medicare or private health insurance plans. That is, a dollar spent by Medicaid provides greater benefits than a dollar spent by either Medicare or private plans." Grabowski argues the GOP alternative to the ACA "introduces a financing mechanism that will threaten Medicaid spending going forward. It will also limit program flexibility and innovation." Therefore, Grabowski believes, "we need to identify ways to lower the growing burden of health care spending. Medicaid should be part of that discussion through payment and delivery innovations."

Will Bunch writes for the [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) (3/7, 586K) in its "Attytood" blog that the real winner of the GOP alternative to the ACA are billionaires who "who drink \$350 bottles of wine with House Speaker Paul Ryan," and the big insurance companies who "are essentially 'the house' when it comes to health care reform...they always win." Bunch argues, "the GOP bill doles out some \$600 billion in tax cuts, and the bulk of these – informally estimated at close to \$250 billion – will flow to people in or around the top 1 Percent, the wealthiest of the wealthy."

Patricia Murphy writes an opinion piece for [Roll Call](#) (3/8, Murphy, 63K) arguing there is a difference between something being possible and something being feasible, and the difference comes down to funding. However, it is difficult to determine whether or not the GOP alternative to the ACA is feasible unless the CBO scores the bill, which it has not yet done. Murphy points out the first step for most legislation is to consider what score the CBO gives it, but the process for the ACA alternative appears to be backwards.

In an opinion piece for the [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#) (3/8, 493K) associate professor of medicine and director of the Center for Women's Health Research and Innovation at the University of Pittsburgh Sonya Borrero writes that women have been the largest beneficiaries under the ACA because they have been able to obtain coverage through the market place and benefits from the robust protection the ACA offered. Borrero points out, "The ACA also ended insurers' ability to refuse coverage for women who had "pre-existing" conditions, including breast cancer, a history of Cesarean section and even prior treatment for domestic violence or sexual assault," and the bill has saved women more than \$1.4 billion in out-of-pocket costs on birth control alone. Borrero concludes, "Curtailling women's access to health services threatens not only their health and productivity, but also the economic stability and well-being of their families as they incur increased health care costs. Before legislators begin to dismantle the ACA, we must demand to know how they will protect the historic gains women have had under it."

Healthcare News:

PLANNED PARENTHOOD REJECTS TRUMP OFFER TO MAINTAIN FEDERAL FUNDING IF IT STOPS ABORTIONS. The [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Chasmar, 272K) reports that a proposal from President Trump to continue Federal funding for Planned Parenthood if it stopped providing abortion services has been "firmly rejected" by the group. According to The New York Times, Trump confirmed Monday that "an informal proposal was made to Planned Parenthood offering to maintain federal funding — about \$500 million each year — if the organization ended abortion procedures." Dawn Laguens, Planned Parenthood's executive vice president and chief brand officer, said, "Offering money to Planned Parenthood to abandon our patients and our values is not a deal that we will ever accept. ... Providing critical health care services for millions of

American women is nonnegotiable." Planned Parenthood President Cecile Richards responded on Twitter, "saying Planned Parenthood is 'proud' to provide abortions services as a 'necessary service' for women's health."

Anna Werner reported on the [CBS Evening News](#) (3/7, story 4, 2:10, Pelley, 11.17M) that "in a statement to CBS News, Mr. Trump said, 'I am pro-life and I am deeply committed to investing in women's health and plan to significantly increase federal funding in support of non-abortion services such as cancer screenings.'"

In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) says the proposal "never stood a chance of even being considered by the group," but "the fact that the idea was broached at all is significant as the latest sign that Republicans recognize the problems – and likely political repercussions – of cutting off funds to an organization that is held in high regard by the American public for providing critical health-care services." The Post calls on the White House to "stop the grandstanding and allow this respected health organization to continue its work unimpeded."

KENTUCKY HOUSE PASSES BILL DEFUNDING PLANNED PARENTHOOD. The [Louisville \(KY\) Courier-Journal](#) (3/7, Watkins, Loftus, 328K) reports Kentucky's House pass a bill Tuesday night "that would reduce Planned Parenthood's access to federal family planning funds." Supporters of the bill say it "makes clear that in Kentucky we will not tolerate, condone or acquiesce to our taxpayer dollars going to organizations that are so callous about human life," while opponents point out that "Planned Parenthood doesn't perform abortions in Kentucky" and claim the organization provides "vital counseling and health services." The bill now returns "to the Senate for concurrence in a House amendment," and if passed, will be sent to Gov. Matt Bevin to sign into law.

VETERANS AFFAIRS SECRETARY CALLS FOR CONGRESS TO EXTEND PRIVATE-SECTOR CARE PROGRAM. The [AP](#) (3/7, Yen) reports Secretary of Veterans Affairs David Shulkin "is urging Congress to act quickly to extend a troubled program aimed at widening access to private-sector care." Shulkin says Congress should extend the program beyond its August expiration date, because over one million veterans now use some private-sector care.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE COMMISSION REMAINS DIVIDED OVER PLANS TO MONITOR HEALTHCARE COSTS. The [Boston Globe](#) (3/7, McCluskey, 1.08M) says a special Massachusetts state commission convened to develop stricter regulations on hospital costs "remains sharply divided over how to proceed." A report developed by the commission will be sent to Gov. Charlie Baker and legislators next week. Amid concerns are the Trump Administration's proposed changes to the Affordable Care Act, which some hospital leaders say "could force them to cut jobs." Other leaders expressed concern over price caps in Baker's proposed budget plan, leading the commission to suggest authorizing a state entity such as the Health Policy Commission to moderate insurance contracts and prices. Debate is likely to persist in the state Legislature.

Human Services News:

MONTANA BILL TO ESTABLISH CHILD ABUSE REVIEW COMMISSION PASSES HOUSE 98-2. The [AP](#) (3/7, Hanson) reports the Montana House of Representatives passed a bill creating a 17-member Child Abuse and Neglect Review Commission as part of a set of recommendations by the Protect Montana Kids Commission. Rep. Kathy Kelker (D-Billings) said the bill would allow the commission to access information from state caseworkers as well as physicians, law enforcement, and community organizations "to get a clearer picture of causes and possible interventions." The bill received support from the Child and Family Services Division and the attorney general's office, and it passed the House 98-2.

Food & Import Safety:

USDA CONFIRMS TENNESSEE CHICKEN FARM BIRD FLU STRAIN ORIGINATED IN NORTH AMERICA. [Bloomberg News](#) (3/7, Durisin, Mulvany, 2.41M) reports a Tennessee chicken farm was found to be host to the highly pathogenic H7N9 bird flu, which is "a different virus and is genetically distinct" from a strain that recently struck China, according to the US Department of Agriculture. The agency found the strain that infected the Tennessee chickens is of "wild bird lineage," and the Tennessee Department of Agriculture added that humans have a "very low" possibility of contracting infections from bird flu. USDA chief veterinarian Jack Shere said the agency is "very positive that we've taken care of it," and that there is "no evidence based on the commercial flocks that have been tested, in addition to the infected flock, of any spread at this time."

[Reuters](#) (3/7, Polansek) reports the USDA confirmed the strain in Tennessee as "the first case in a commercial U.S. operation in more than a year." An official from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention confirmed the strain is distinct from the H7N9 bird flu that killed 112 people in China this winter. The USDA also emphasized the difference in a statement, explaining that the strain in Tennessee "is NOT the same as the China H7N9 virus that has impacted poultry and infected humans in Asia."

USDA FINDS VARIATION OF H5N2 BIRD FLU STRAIN IN TURKEYS IN WISCONSIN. [Reuters](#) (3/7, de La Hamaide, Trompiz) reports that on Tuesday, the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) announced an outbreak of avian flu in turkeys in Wisconsin. The H5N2 strain affecting the turkeys differs from "the highly pathogenic H7 virus" found in a Tennessee flock of chickens that were contracted by Tyson Foods Inc. The US Department of Agriculture released a report posted on the OIE website which stated the premises was quarantined and the turkeys were destroyed. The USDA also "said tests had shown that the H5N2 virus detected in Wisconsin was of North American wild bird origin and distinct from the H5N2 viruses found in 2015."

PET FOOD INGREDIENT SUPPLIER WILBUR-ELLIS, EMPLOYEE CHARGED IN FEDERAL COURT FOR MISBRANDING. The [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#) (3/7, Patrick, 729K) reports Wilbur-Ellis and its employee Henry Rychlik were charged in a federal court in St. Louis on Monday "with four misdemeanor counts of introduction of adulterated food into interstate commerce and four counts of introduction of misbranded food into interstate commerce," after the ingredients supplier allegedly misled pet food manufacturers about the contents of the ingredients they were purchasing. A spokesman for the company said, "These misdemeanor charges arise from shipments that allegedly occurred several years ago (in) one of the feed division's 32 locations around the world. At that time, the facility was under prior local management," and that no safety or nutritional standards were violated at the facility regardless.

Nutrition & Obesity:

FEWER OVERWEIGHT AMERICANS TRYING TO LOSE WEIGHT, STUDY SUGGESTS. The [AP](#) (3/7, Tanner) reports that research indicates "fewer overweight Americans have been trying to lose weight in recent years." The [findings](#) were published in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

[Reuters](#) (3/7, Rapaport) reports that investigators found that "over roughly the past three decades, the proportion of adults who are overweight and obese has" increased "from 53 percent to 66 percent," but during "that same period, the proportion of heavy adults trying to lose weight dropped from 56 percent to 49 percent."

[TIME](#) (3/7, Sifferlin, 6.98M) reports that the researchers found that the largest "decline in weight loss striving was among black women, the group with the highest rates of obesity in the study." Study author Dr. Jian Zhang "says he believes the number-one reason for the drop is that so many people struggle to lose weight and keep it off, a process that discourages them." Meanwhile, "being overweight or obese is also becoming the norm, so people may feel less

pressure to lose weight, he says." Also covering the story are [CNBC](#) (3/7, Ferris, 2.17M) and the [New York Daily News](#) (3/7, Jagannathan, 4.45M).

WASHINGTON TIMES CRITICIZES PHILLY SODA TAX. In an editorial, the [Washington Times](#) (3/7, 272K) criticizes Philadelphia's sugary drink tax, saying that it has already cost jobs, "generated far less revenue than expected," and encourage shoppers to go "beyond the city limits to buy their favorite sugary beverages."

Medicare:

REPORT PROJECTS GLOBAL ALZHEIMER'S CASES WILL NEARLY TRIPLE BY 2050. On its website, [CNN](#) (3/7, Lamotte, 29.79M) reports the Alzheimer's Association released its annual [World Alzheimer's Report](#) (pdf) on Tuesday, which estimates that there are currently 47 million people around the world with the disease. The report also estimates that the number of people diagnosed with the disease will triple by 2050.

[HealthDay](#) (3/7, Mozes, 21K) reports deaths from Alzheimer's disease in the US have nearly doubled in the past 15 years, according to the report.

Meanwhile, [Forbes](#) (3/7, 15.17M) contributor Bruce Japsen writes that the annual cost of caring for Americans with Alzheimer's disease has increased to \$259 billion, according to the report. Matthew Baumgart, the Alzheimer's Association's senior director of public policy, said, "It's going to bankrupt Medicare if we don't do something about it."

Medicaid &CHIP:

OP-ED: MEDICAID EXPANSION IN ARIZONA WORKING AS INTENDED. Linda Hunt, Senior Vice President of Operations for AZ Dignity Health, and Todd Sanders, President and CEO of the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, write in an op-ed for the [Arizona Republic](#) (3/7, 1.1M) that the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System, the state's Medicaid program, "is considered the gold standard among the states." That, they argue, is in part because the program "leverages the private sector to manage member care, so enrollees go to the same doctors and hospitals as all Arizonans." The authors conclude that Arizona citizens are today "well-served by a vibrant health-care sector that provides the highest quality care and contributes mightily to the state's economy," and state that "anyone who wants to undo that truly doesn't know what they're doing."

GOP'S ACA REPLACEMENT WOULD CAP FEDERAL MEDICAID FUNDING. [McClatchy](#) (3/7, Pugh, 74K) reports the GOP's Affordable Care Act replacement plan "would slash federal Medicaid spending by capping it at a predetermined amount per beneficiary beginning in 2019," with the new funding formula known as "per capita caps" designed to allocate funding based on how much a state has spent in the past "for its various categories of enrollees." A [study](#) (2/6) last month by healthcare consulting firm Avalere estimated "that per capita caps would cut federal Medicaid spending by \$110 billion over five years," leaving states to either "make up the funding shortfall through higher taxes or cut program spending by limiting enrollment, cutting benefits or cutting payments to Medicaid providers."

NEW JERSEY'S MEDICAID PROGRAM FAILS TO MEET BENEFICIARIES' HEALTHCARE NEEDS, REPORT SUGGESTS. In continuing coverage, the [Newark \(NJ\) Star-Ledger](#) (3/7, Livio, 438K) reports New Jersey's Medicaid program has "failed to meet the basic" physical and mental health needs of its beneficiaries "too often," according to a report released by the New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute. The report outlined 24 recommendations aimed at improving the state's Medicaid program.

REP. MARSHALL SAYS MEDICAID BENEFICIARIES "AREN'T GOING TO TAKE CARE OF

THEMSELVES.” The [Wichita \(KS\) Eagle](#) (3/7, Brownlee, 265K) reports Rep. Roger Marshall (R-KS) said, “Just like Jesus said, ‘The poor will always be with us.’ There is a group of people that just don’t want health care and aren’t going to take care of themselves.” Marshall added, “The Medicaid population, which is (on) a free credit card, as a group, do probably the least preventive medicine and taking care of themselves and eating healthy and exercising.”

ARKANSAS GOVERNOR TO ASK FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO APPROVE PROPOSED CHANGES TO STATE’S EXPANDED MEDICAID PROGRAM. In continuing coverage, the [Arkansas Democrat Gazette](#) (3/7, Fanney, 278K) reports Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson (R) said that he expects the Trump Administration will approve proposed changes to the state’s expanded Medicaid program. Hutchinson said he “will ask the federal government to allow the state to cap participation in the Arkansas Works Medicaid-expansion program at 100 percent of the poverty line, implement a work requirement, strengthen employer-sponsored health insurance and allow the state to determine who is eligible for the program.”

OPINION: GOVERNORS SHOULD HAVE A VOICE IN MEDICAID REFORM DEBATE. Utah Gov. Gary Herbert (R) writes in an opinion piece in the [Daily Caller](#) (3/7, 898K) that Congress could learn from the experiences of governors in deciding how to reform Medicaid. Herbert argues that Congress must “learn from the experiences of the 50 states,” because the states “actually run the Medicaid program and it is the states that regulate insurance.”

MAINE GOVERNOR SAYS STATE RESIDENTS ARE BEING MISLED BY ADVOCATES OF MEDICAID EXPANSION. The [Bangor \(ME\) Daily News](#) (3/7, Cousins, 165K) reports Maine Gov. Paul LePage (R) said on a radio program that state residents are being misled by advocates of Medicaid expansion and that the state does not qualify for additional federal funding under the ACA. The article reports that LePage “glossed over the truth” with his comments, because “LePage is correct that Maine wouldn’t receive the enhanced federal funds for a percentage of Maine’s uninsured adults,” but “the state would receive those funds for a much larger population that’s eligible for Medicaid under the ACA expansion, according to a 2015 study commissioned by the Maine Health Access Foundation.”

HOUSE REPUBLICANS’ HEALTHCARE BILL WOULD ALLOW STATES TO EXPAND MEDICAID BEFORE 2020. The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (3/7, Williams, 1.41M) reports states will have until Jan. 1, 2020 to expand their Medicaid programs under the House Republicans’ healthcare bill before enrollment in the program is frozen. The article points that 19 states have not expanded Medicaid under the ACA.

Health & Medical News:

TRUMP PROMISES “NEW SYSTEM” TO BRING DOWN DRUG PRICES, BOOST COMPETITION. The [AP](#) (3/7, Jay, Johnson) reports President Trump tweeted that he is working on “a new system” to reduce drug prices and bring “competition” to the pharmaceutical industry. Biotech stocks saw “some of the biggest losses Tuesday” in response to the message. According to the AP, bills in Congress concerning drug prices “haven’t gone anywhere” due to “opposition from Congressional Republicans and pressure from the pharmaceutical industry, which is among the top spenders on lobbying Congress.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/7, Eisen, 6.37M) says Trump’s tweet left analysts uncertain. For example, in a note to clients, Citigroup analysts wrote, “It is unclear to us what this ‘new system’ could entail,” and EvercoreISI analyst Umer Raffat said in a note to clients, “Question really is: what does that mean?”

Additional coverage is provided by [Bloomberg News](#) (3/7, Hopkins, 2.41M), [Reuters](#) (3/7, Chiacu), [The Hill](#) (3/7, Shelbourne, 1.25M), [USA Today](#) (3/7, McCoy, 5.28M), and [STAT](#) (3/7, Keshavan).

REP. CUMMINGS TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT TRUMP TO DISCUSS PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICES. [The Hill](#) (3/7, Marcos, 1.25M) reports Rep. Elijah Cummings, the top Democrat on the

House Oversight Committee, "will meet with President Trump at the White House on Wednesday about lowering prescription drug prices." According to The Hill, "Trump's willingness to meet with Cummings about lowering prescription drug prices goes against the traditional GOP position opposing government action to address the costs."

The [Baltimore Sun](#) (3/7, Fritze, 714K) reports Cummings "had been trying to schedule the meeting for weeks." Cummings "said Tuesday he would be joined by Rep. Peter Welch of Vermont, a Democrat on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and Dr. Redonda G. Miller, president of The Johns Hopkins Hospital."

Additional coverage is provided by the [Washington Examiner](#) (3/7, Morrongiello, 400K).

ANALYSIS SUGGESTS GOVERNMENT CAN STEEPLY CUT DRUG PRICES THROUGH NEGOTIATION. [STAT](#) (3/7, Silverman) reports that an [analysis](#) published in the journal Medical Care detailed "what can happen when the federal government negotiates" drug prices, pointing out that the Veterans Choice Program "paid a median price of \$12,500 for a month's supply of Harvoni" in 2015, for a two-to-three month regimen the price was "closer to \$25,000 to \$37,500 per person," compared to Gilead's list price at launch of \$94,500. Yet Veterans Affairs can achieve even lower prices through negotiations, STAT says, adding that "the effort does provide a useful window into the wider issue of government negotiations" with drugmakers for programs such as Medicare.

RECOMMENDING LIMITS TO SURGEONS FOR PAINKILLER PRESCRIPTIONS REDUCED PILLS PRESCRIBED AND USED, ANALYSIS SUGGESTS. The [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Bernstein, 11.43M) reports that when Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center "suggested that surgeons limit prescriptions of narcotic pain pills to a specific number for different kinds of operations, ... the number of pills prescribed by doctors for five common outpatient surgeries dropped by 53 percent, and patients didn't consume all the pills they were given," according to an analysis led by Richard J. Barth, chief of general surgery at the center. Barth and his colleagues surveyed patients that underwent "partial mastectomy, partial mastectomy with a lymph-node biopsy, gall-bladder removal [or] two kinds of hernia repair" to develop "recommendations to pass along to surgeons," and recommended "that they limit the number of narcotic pills to five and 10 for the two breast operations and 15 for the other three." The findings "will be published this week in the journal Annals of Surgery."

JUST 13.8% OF BABY BOOMERS HAD BEEN TESTED FOR HEPATITIS C BY 2015, REPORT FINDS. [USA Today](#) (3/8, Painter, 5.28M) reports "just 13.8%" of baby boomers had "been tested for the liver-damaging hepatitis C virus" by 2015, according to a report "based on a nationwide survey of 24,000 people." The study also "found higher rates among men than women, and among people with Medicaid or military insurance than among people with private insurance or Medicare-only coverage." According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "boomers make up three quarters of the estimated 3 million or so Americans chronically infected with the virus," which leads to "liver cirrhosis and liver cancer," killing "up to 5% of carriers." The findings are published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine.

US DRUG PRICES CANNOT BE EXPLAINED BY RESEARCH COSTS, STUDY FINDS. [Modern Healthcare](#) (3/7, Arndt, Subscription Publication, 241K) reports "the 15 drug companies that made the 20 best-selling drugs worldwide in 2015 made \$116 billion in excess revenue from premium drug prices in the US" while spending "only \$76 billion on global research and development," according to research published on the Health Affairs blog. Researchers said the "excess revenue comes from drug prices that are much higher in the US than in" other countries. They added, "if the 15 companies had lowered the premium prices they put on drugs in the US," their revenues would drop by "about \$40 billion" and would be equal to R&D spending.

EXPRESS SCRIPTS DISPUTES GILEAD'S CLAIM, WOULD "WELCOME" LOWER DRUG PRICES. [Bloomberg News](#) (3/7, Chen, Langreth, 2.41M) reports Express Scripts Holding Co.

responded Monday to Gilead's claim last week "that pharmacy benefit managers like Express Scripts profit from high drug prices because it lets them take a bigger slice of the discounts they negotiate." Express Scripts called on Gilead to "repay the costs that 'our clients, and federal and state governments, have incurred since the launch of Sovaldi,'" adding that the company would "welcome a lower price" for the drug.

TRANSENERIX EXPECTS FDA APPROVAL OF ITS SURGICAL ROBOT THIS YEAR. The [Triangle \(NC\) Business Journal](#) (3/7, Henderson, Subscription Publication, 29K) reports TransEnterix CEO Todd Pope announced "Monday that the company expects U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval for its Senhance surgical robot...later this year." He explained the company is "in the final stages of completing our submission and expect to file the Senhance 510(k)" before May.

EDITORIAL: HOSPITALS NEED TO IMPROVE REPORTING ON MEDICAL DEVICE PROBLEMS. In an editorial, the [Wheeling \(WV\) Intelligencer](#) (3/7, 58K) calls on hospitals to improve reporting on problems with medical devices. The Intelligencer notes that the Government Accountability Office and the Food and Drug Administration "both report that hospitals are failing to disclose when medical devices injure or kill patients by spreading cancer cells throughout their body or infecting them with superbugs." The Intelligencer explains that the FDA is "unable to identify some risks before a device is in wide use," therefore "the burden is on the medical community to be vigilant and forthcoming." The piece describes several devices that have been problematic and calls both on hospitals to "rapidly report injuries that occur after a device is put into use" and on patient advocates to "double down on their message" of hospital transparency.

GENE ACTIVITY IN NASAL EPITHELIUM CAN ASSIST IN DIAGNOSING LUNG CANCER, STUDY SUGGESTS. [Reuters](#) (3/7, Boggs) reports researchers at the Boston University School of Medicine "found that distinctive changes in gene activity in the nasal epithelium of lung cancer patients closely parallel the changes seen in lung epithelium and can distinguish between benign lung disease and cancer." The study "identified 535 genes that had different activity patterns in the nasal epithelium of patients with lung cancer versus those with benign disease," and concluded that "nasal gene activity was more accurate than clinical risk factors alone for diagnosing lung cancer." The [findings](#) were published in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute.

HAWAII SENATE PASSES BILL ALLOWING MEDICAL AID IN DYING. The [AP](#) (3/7, Bussewitz) reports the Hawaii Senate passed a bill on Tuesday that would "allow terminally ill patients to receive medical aid in dying."

OPIOID OVERDOSE DEATHS IN WEST VIRGINIA EXHAUSTING BURIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR NEEDY FAMILIES. The [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Ingraham, 11.43M) reports a West Virginia state program "providing burial assistance for needy families" is expected to be exhausted "for at least the fifth year in a row" before the end of the year, according to the state's Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR). According to funeral directors, the state's "drug overdose epidemic, the worst in the nation, is partly to blame."

MISSOURI CITIES AND COUNTIES CREATE PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAMS AS STATE FAILS TO DO SO. The [AP](#) (3/7, Salter) reports that some of Missouri's biggest cities and counties are "creating their own monitoring system" to track the prescription and sale of opioid medications because the state has failed to do so. While the Missouri state legislature has "considered adopting a drug monitoring program several times, it has always opted against doing so, largely over privacy concerns, including the potential for health records to be hacked." The article points out that Missouri is the only state without such a program. Additional coverage is provided by [STAT](#) (3/7, Thielking).

THREE SENATORS ASK GAO TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBLE ABUSES OF ORPHAN DRUG ACT. [Kaiser Health News](#) (3/7, Tribble, Lupkin, 2K) reports Sens. Orrin Hatch (R-UT), Chuck

Grassley (R-IA), and Tom Cotton (R-AR) have asked the Government Accountability Office “to investigate potential abuses of the Orphan Drug Act.” In their letter, the Senators claim “several recent press reports suggest that some pharmaceutical manufacturers might be taking advantage of the multiple designation allowance in the orphan drug approval process.”

AMERICAN ADULTS HAVING LESS SEX, RESEARCH INDICATES. The [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Bahrapour, 11.43M) reports that [research](#) published in the Archives of Sexual Behavior indicates that “overall, American adults are having less sex than they did a quarter century ago, with married people showing the most dramatic decline.” Investigators, “using 1989-2014 data from the General Social Survey...found that American adults have sex seven to nine fewer times per year than in the 1990s.” During that time, “the average person had sex 60 to 62 times a year, but in the early 2000s the frequency began to slip, and by 2014 it had declined to less than 53 times a year.”

[TIME](#) (3/7, Heid, 6.98M) reports that the decline “in frequency was even steeper for married couples who live together; they had sex 16 fewer times a year.” Also covering the story are the [San Diego Union-Tribune](#) (3/7, Sisson, 496K), [Fortune](#) (3/7, Entis, 7.12M), the [New York Post](#) (3/7, Miller, 3.82M), [The Guardian \(UK\)](#) (3/7, Davis, 4.07M), and the [Newark \(NJ\) Star-Ledger](#) (3/7, O'Brien, 438K).

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY CONSIDERING SEPARATING CHILDREN FROM PARENTS CAUGHT CROSSING THE BORDER ILLEGALLY. The [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Schmidt, 11.43M) “Morning Mix” reports, “In an attempt to deter illegal immigration from Mexico, the Department of Homeland Security is considering separating children from parents caught crossing the border, Secretary John Kelly said...on CNN” earlier this week. This “proposal would result in detention for the parent while any accompanying children would be placed in the care of the government or sent to live with any relatives in the” US. The Post adds, “The American Academy of Pediatrics said in a [statement](#)...that in ‘any time of anxiety and stress, children need to be with their parents, family members and caregivers.’” The group wrote, “Federal authorities must exercise caution to ensure that the emotional and physical stress children experience as they seek refuge in the United States is not exacerbated by the additional trauma of being separated from their siblings, parents or other relatives and caregivers.”

ARTICLE DISCUSSES WAY TO GET KIDS TO SLEEP IN THEIR OWN BEDS. A [USA Today](#) (3/7, Bowerman, 5.28M) article discusses way to get kids to sleep in their own beds. The article discusses several strategies to help parents. Angela Mattke, MD, “points to the American Academy of Pediatrics Four B’s of bedtime (bathing, brushing, books and bedtime), which was developed to help parents transitioning off the breast and bottle at bedtime to a new soothing routine.”

OVEREATING, NOT EATING ENOUGH OF 10 FOODS AND NUTRIENTS MAY BE A FACTOR NEARLY HALF OF US DEATHS FROM HEART DISEASE, STROKE, AND DIABETES, STUDY SUGGESTS. [NBC Nightly News](#) (3/7, story 7, 2:00, Holt, 16.61M) reported in a two-minute segment on “startling news from doctors about what’s associated with half of all fatal heart attacks and strokes.” NBC News correspondent Ann Thompson explained, “Heart disease, stroke, type two diabetes” are “all major killers. Now a new study finds almost half those deaths are associated with a poor diet.”

The [AP](#) (3/7, Tanner) reports that [research](#) published in the Journal of the American Medical Association suggests “overeating or not eating enough of...10 foods and nutrients contributes to nearly half of U.S. deaths from” heart disease, stroke, and diabetes. The researchers found that “foods that were under-eaten include: nuts and seeds, seafood rich in omega-3 fats...fruits and vegetables; and whole grains.” Meanwhile, “foods or nutrients that were over-eaten include salt and salty foods; processed meats including bacon, bologna and hot dogs; red meat including steaks and hamburgers; and sugary drinks.” The FDA’s “recent voluntary sodium reduction guidelines for makers of processed foods and taxes that some U.S. cities have imposed on

sugar-sweetened beverages are steps in the right direction...said" lead author Renata Micha,

On its website, [NBC News](#) (3/7, Fox, 2.67M) reports that the investigators found that "blacks and Hispanics were more strongly affected by the dietary factors than whites." The researchers wrote, "Overall, suboptimal diet was associated with 53.1 percent of total estimated cardiometabolic deaths among blacks, 50 percent among Hispanics, and 42.8 percent among whites."

Global Health:

ANALYSIS FINDS PHYSICIANS FROM COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY IMMIGRATION ORDER SERVE MILLIONS IN THE US. The [Buffalo \(NY\) News](#) (3/7, 470K) reports an analysis from the Immigrant Doctors Project found that roughly 75 doctors in the Buffalo-Niagara region from the six countries included in the most recent immigration ban "provide 100,000 to 150,000 appointments each year to patients." On a national level, the project estimates that the six countries affected by the order have produced more than 7,000 physicians in the US who "see an estimated 14 million visits from patients each year." The Association of American Medical Colleges criticized the executive order, stating, "We are deeply disappointed that the revised executive order and accompanying fact sheet do not explicitly recognize the importance of international medical graduates, physicians and medical researchers to the nation's health security."

BRAZIL CONFIRMS YELLOW FEVER, FEARS TRANSMISSION IN URBAN POPULATIONS IS IMMINENT. [Reuters](#) (3/7, Brooks) reports the World Health Organization labeled the entire Brazilian state of Espirito Santo as being "at risk for yellow fever transmission." Officials suspect the virus originated in rural areas with high exposure to mosquitoes that prey on infected monkeys, and worry the virus will spread to cities including Sao Paulo, where the WHO said the virus could spread easily through human contact. The Brazilian Ministry of Health said Tuesday that since the outbreak's detection in December, "there have been 127 confirmed deaths, with another 106 under investigation." Some 371 of 1,500 suspected cases have been confirmed, the country's highest level since 2000.

SOUTH KOREA CONFIRMS 50,000 MORE BIRDS ARE INFECTED WITH AVIAN INFLUENZA. [Reuters](#) (3/7, Chung) reports nearly 50,000 more farm birds were culled in South Korea after a case of H5N6 bird flu was found at a chicken farm near Seoul, and a strain of H5N8 was detected at a duck farm in the southwest, according to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. The total number of infected animals has reached approximately 35 million, "more than a fifth of all South Korean poultry," leading to the country's "worst-ever bird flu epidemic since mid-November last year."

National News:

WHITE HOUSE STANDS BEHIND TRUMP'S WIRETAP ALLEGATIONS, BUT OFFERS NO PROOF. Coverage of President Trump's allegation that President Obama wiretapped the phone lines at Trump Tower remains heavy, although it is lighter than the past few days. The story received just over seven minutes of coverage on the network news broadcasts (compared to 14 on Monday evening) and was no longer the lead story on any of them. The tone of the coverage remains unrelentingly negative toward the Administration. Jim Acosta, for example, said on [CNN's Situation Room](#) (3/7, 554K) that the President's message on House Republicans' ACA replacement measure "had to share the stage once again...with the problem of his own making. ... It's now a question that won't go away. Where is President Trump's proof that his predecessor Barack Obama broke the law and tapped his phones? The White House still doesn't have an answer." Jessica Schneider said on [CNN's Situation Room](#) (3/7, 554K) that the White House is "not backing down," but they are "also not backing up their claims with any evidence."

The [CBS Evening News](#) (3/7, story 5, 2:15, Pelley, 11.17M) reported that “for the third day, the President did not take questions and the White House did not provide evidence” for the claim Trump “described...as a fact” over the weekend. Similarly, David Muir said on [ABC World News Tonight](#) (3/7, story 3, 2:30, 14.63M) that it has been three days since Trump “made those claims. Where’s the proof?” Jonathan Karl said Trump “is facing mounting pressure to provide evidence to prove his explosive allegation” as “even high-level members of the President’s own team seem to be at a loss to explain what he was talking about.” However, [CNN’s Situation Room](#) (3/7, 554K) reported that on Tuesday Attorney General Sessions “refused to refute the President’s allegation.”

[NBC Nightly News](#) (3/7, story 5, 2:25, Holt, 16.61M) reported that the White House “stood its ground, saying the President has no regrets about making the claim,” but “some top Republicans are pointing out there’s still no proof to support the accusation.” NBC (Jackson) added that the White House is “kicking it to Congress to investigate instead.” On [Fox News’ Special Report](#) (3/7, 1.53M), John Roberts said White House offered “no new evidence” Tuesday, and “staff just kept saying this now in the hands of the Congressional intelligence committees where frankly...they hope it will quietly go away.”

The [New York Times](#) (3/7, Thrush, Haberman, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that White House press secretary Sean Spicer said that Trump “stood by his unprecedented Twitter posts,” but when he was asked “if he had been shown any evidence of improper surveillance,” Spicer replied, “No, that’s above my pay grade,” and “declined to say whether other senior administration officials, including Lt. Gen. H. R. McMaster, the national security adviser, had been given any evidence.” [Politico](#) (3/7, Conway, 2.46M) says Spicer “refused to say whether he believes his boss’ claim.” Spicer “dismiss[ed] a reporter who asked him if he believes the president’s explosive, and so far evidence-free claim,” saying, “I get that that’s a cute question to ask. ... My job is to represent the president and talk about what he is doing and what he wants. And he has made very clear what his goal is, what he would like to have happen.”

The [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Cillizza, 11.43M) says that “what Trump tweeted and what Spicer is now saying aren’t the same thing.” On Saturday, Trump tweeted that “he had ‘just found out’ that then-President Barack Obama had ordered a wiretap at Trump Tower during the 2016 campaign,” which “means conclusive evidence existed and had been presented to Trump about the wiretapping.” Spicer is now saying “that Trump thinks the right thing to do is to have Congress investigate to find out whether wiretapping occurred.” The Post adds that the “most likely answer...is that Trump doesn’t really have evidence of Obama wiretapping him during the 2016 campaign,” and instead “read a Breitbart News story detailing conservative radio talk show host Mark Levin’s theory of an attempted ‘silent coup’ by Obama during the campaign and simply tweeted it.”

In an op-ed for the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M), David Kris, who served as assistant attorney general for national security from 2009 to 2011, and as a national security adviser to the Clinton campaign in 2016, writes that Trump “is spending at a terrific rate the accumulated credibility capital of the office he occupies.” Trump may one day need to “speak seriously, and to be taken seriously, at home or abroad. On his present course and speed, that will be a hard day.” Gloria Borger said on [CNN’s Situation Room](#) (3/7, 554K) that the President “could end the controversy by simply telling people what the evidence is that he has.”

Nunes Says He’s Seen No Evidence To Support Trump’s Claim. The [New York Post](#) (3/7, Halper, 3.82M) reports that House Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes told a press conference Tuesday that he has not seen evidence to support Trump’s claim. Nunes said, “I have not seen that evidence. ... As you know, I think a lot of that was maybe a little bit – the multiple tweets were perhaps a little bit strung together, but I think the bigger question that needs to be answered is whether or not Mr. Trump or any of his associates were in fact targeted by any of the intelligence agencies or law enforcement agencies.” [Reuters](#) (3/7, Ahmann, Zengerle) says Nunes told reporters that if Trump’s allegation were true, “the leaders of Congress and chairmen

of its two intelligence committees, known collectively as the 'Gang of Eight,' should have been briefed." Said Nunes, "We are supposed to be kept up to speed on any pertinent counterintelligence investigation. ... If Trump or any other political campaign, or anybody associated with Trump, was under some type of investigation, that clearly should have risen to the Gang of Eight level."

Margaret Brennan reported on the [CBS Evening News](#) (3/7, story 5, 2:15, Pelley, 11.17M) that Nunes "suggested that the President might have misspoken." Nunes: "As you all know, the President is a neophyte to politics. He's been doing this a little over a year, and I think a lot of the things that he says you guys sometimes take literally." Rep. Chris Collins said on [CNN's Situation Room](#) (3/7, 554K), "I am not on the intelligence committee. I do not have any information myself. I'm not privy to FISA court orders and the like. So, at this point I don't know anything more than you or other Americans know, but I do agree there is nothing wrong with putting this – if we're going to investigate the Russian issue related to the campaign – there is nothing wrong with putting this issue as well."

In his "Talking Points Memo" segment on [Fox News' The O'Reilly Factor](#) (3/7, 767K), Bill O'Reilly said, "There are only two stone cold facts that we can report in this entire debacle. First, that General Michael Flynn was captured on a wiretap talking to the Russian ambassador, perhaps in Trump Tower. That tap happened, but we don't know who ordered it or how it went down. Obviously, the American people are entitled to know. Second fact, twofold. Someone leaked the conversations between Flynn and the Russian ambassador to the press. That is a felony. We need to know who the leaker is."

MRC Study: Media Focused On Trump Claims, Ignored NYTimes Report On Actual Surveillance. According to a study by the conservative Media Research Center, ABC, CBS, and NBC "staged a 'freak out'" in the wake of Trump's tweets, the [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Harper, 272K) reports. Analysts Mike Ciandella and Rich Noyes wrote, "In contrast, new reports from previous weeks suggesting the Obama administration did, in fact, initiate surveillance were essentially ignored at the time. For example, when the New York Times initially reported that members of Trump's team were under surveillance before the inauguration, the story only got 13 seconds of coverage – and only on the CBS Evening News."

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/7, Lee, 4.52M), however, says "there are plenty" in "Tuesday's conservative media" who are "ready to give credence to the wiretapping claims" and goes on to highlight headlines from the [Washington Times](#), the [Daily Caller](#), and [Townhall](#).

MEDIA ANALYSES: ROSENSTEIN SIDESTEPS CALLS FOR SPECIAL PROSECUTOR IN TRUMP-RUSSIA PROBE. Media coverage of the Senate Judiciary Committee's hearing on the nomination of Rod Rosenstein to be deputy Attorney General highlights tensions as panel Democrats pushed Rosenstein to appointing a special prosecutor to investigate Russian efforts to influence the 2016 presidential election. Several reports describe Rosenstein as sidestepping the issue during his testimony.

Pamela Brown said on [CNN's Situation Room](#) (3/7, 554K) that "what would typically be a low key confirmation hearing for the deputy attorney general became a tension-filled showdown over Russia because he would now be the man who could oversee the investigation into Russia's meddling." The [New York Times](#) (3/7, Savage, Lichtblau, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) says Democrats argued that the appointment of a special "was necessary to shield the inquiry from the appearance of political interference by the Trump administration," but Chairman Charles Grassley said it was "far too soon to tell" whether a special counsel was warranted in this case.

While the [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/7, Viswanatha, Hong, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) says Democrats pressed Rosenstein to commit to appointing a special prosecutor, the [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/7, Wilber, 4.52M) says Rosenstein "sidestepped calls to appoint a special prosecutor," testifying that "he didn't know enough about the probe to make such a pledge." Rosenstein

"testified that if confirmed he would ensure that politics would not derail any investigation involving Russia." The [New York Post](#) (3/7, Halper, 3.82M) also says Rosenstein "sidestepped questions on whether he'd support the appointment of a special counsel," while the [AP](#) (3/7, Tucker) says that despite being "repeatedly pressed by Democrats, Rosenstein would not commit to appointing a special prosecutor."

The [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Noble, 272K) says Rosenstein "pushed back against Senate Democrats' assertions that he should appoint a special prosecutor." Democrats' push for a special prosecutor was also "met with stiff resistance from Republicans, who said they had every faith in Mr. Rosenstein's ability to independently oversee an investigation." [NBC Nightly News](#) (3/7, story 5, 2:25, Holt, 16.61M) showed Rosenstein saying, "As for as I am concerned, every investigation conducted by the Department of Justice is an independent investigation."

[Politico](#) (3/7, Kim, Gerstein, 2.46M) reports that Rosenstein told senators "that he knows of no reason he would have to step aside from leading federal probes into communications between the Trump campaign and the Russian government." Rosenstein "told the committee that he is 'not aware of any' basis that would force him to recuse himself from any Russia-related probes, although he qualified that he doesn't have access to all the relevant information because he is currently not involved in the matter." Rosenstein also "noted that then-Attorney General Loretta Lynch declined calls for a special counsel when they first were made in early January." Rosenstein said, "I don't know at this point if Attorney General Lynch or acting Deputy Attorney General Boente are right or wrong but I certainly wouldn't be in a position to overrule them without having access to the facts."

On [CNN's Anderson Cooper 360](#) (3/7, 686K), Sen. Richard Blumenthal said that if Rosenstein doesn't commit to a special prosecutor, "I will oppose" his confirmation. Sen. Ben Cardin was asked on [MSNBC MTP Daily](#) (3/7) what would be the trigger for a special counsel to him. Cardin said, "There are two separate issues here as you point out. One is getting all the information about what Russia was doing. The contacts made in the United States, its intent and interfering of our election, how we can protect ourselves against these attacks. In my view, that requires an independent special commission that devotes its full time to figuring out what happened. ... In regards to any criminal investigations, it is very clear, if there's any criminal evidence about the involvement of the trump administration or the trump campaign, then a special counsel would be necessary."

In a piece for the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M), Hugh Hewitt offers "a note of caution to Democrats pounding the lectern for a special prosecutor," arguing that "any special prosecutor appointed to look into the alleged 'Russian connection' should also be given a scope of inquiry that includes the handing of the investigation into Clinton's server, the slow-walking of document delivery to the Congress and the courts concerning Clinton's administration of the State Department as well as alleged Obama administration leaks of classified information from the first campaign debate forward." Hewitt writes that if a "hunt is to be had, everyone connected to the election is the fox." Russian President Vladimir Putin, he adds, "must be smiling" as his "campaign against the legitimacy of everyone and everything in American politics is bearing fruit every day."

Franken Says Sessions Perjured Himself. The [New York Times](#) (3/7, Savage, Lichtblau, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) says there was a "heated moment" during the hearing stemming from "the revelation that [Attorney General Sessions] had spoken twice to the Russian ambassador last year, despite telling Senator Al Franken, Democrat of Minnesota, at his own confirmation hearing in January that he had had no contact with Russians." Franken said a letter from Sessions in which he "insisted his answer had been true because he understood Mr. Franken's question to be about Russian contacts in his role as a surrogate for the Trump campaign," was "'insulting' and demanded that Mr. Sessions be called back before the panel." Grassley "accused Mr. Franken of having asked Mr. Sessions a 'gotcha question,' and the two briefly shouted over each other."

On [CNN's The Lead](#) (3/7, 320K), Franken called Sessions' letter "a ridiculous response. It's not a clarification at all. Of course, the question didn't ask about the Russian ambassador. I didn't ask him – he answered a question that he asked himself, which is did I meet with any Russians, and he answered it falsely." Franken added, "I've been cutting him a lot of slack. I've been refusing to say that he lied. I've wanted to wait for this letter to come out. It's hard to come to any other conclusion than that he just perjured himself."

Franken made similar comments to reporters outside his office on Tuesday, the [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Swoyer, 272K) reports. Asked if he thought Sessions perjured himself, Franken said, "It's hard to come up with any other conclusion." Franken called Sessions' letter "absolutely ridiculous and contradictory," and said, "I don't understand how we're supposed to draw any other conclusion unless he comes back. He should come back and talk to us."

Lewandowski Approved Page's Trip To Moscow. [Politico](#) (3/7, Meyer, Vogel, 2.46M) reports that Donald Trump's former campaign manager Corey Lewandowski approved a trip to Moscow by foreign policy adviser Carter Page last summer "on the condition that he would not be an official representative of the campaign, according to a former campaign adviser." J.D. Gordon, Page's supervisor on the campaign's National Security Advisory Committee, emailed Lewandowski seeking formal approval for the trip, which is now "a focus of congressional and FBI investigations into Russian influence in the 2016 presidential election," and "was told by Lewandowski that he could make the trip, but not as an official representative of the campaign, the former campaign adviser said." [USA Today](#) (3/7, Reilly, 5.28M) says Trump officials tried "for months" to "distance the campaign from Page after his speech at the New Economic School in Moscow, which drew intense political scrutiny because he called aspects of U.S. foreign policy 'hypocritical' and sharply criticized America's sanctions against Russia."

Senators Say CIA Providing Raw Intel To Aid Russia Probe. Sens. John Cornyn and Mark Warner said Tuesday that the CIA "has begun providing raw intelligence documents to members of Congress who are investigating Russia's meddling in the presidential election," [Politico](#) (3/7, Wright, 2.46M) reports. Cornyn said he visited CIA headquarters on Monday to view "four large binders full of classified information that's been made available to the committee to conduct" its probe, and Warner said he planned to visit the CIA Wednesday "to view the raw intelligence documents, which formed the basis of the intelligence community's assessment that Russia sought to sway the election in favor of President Donald Trump."

Nunes Asks Comey, Rogers To Testify In Trump-Russia Probe. House Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes says he has invited FBI Director Comey and NSA Director Rogers and "top intelligence officials from the Obama administration" to testify at a March 20 hearing on "Russia's role in attempting to influence the US election," the [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Dinan, 272K) reports. [Bloomberg Politics](#) (3/7, House, 201K) says the hearing "will likely be the first in-depth public inquiry into allegations of connections between Donald Trump's presidential campaign and the Russian government, as well as Russia's efforts to influence the U.S. election."

[Politico](#) (3/7, Wright, 2.46M) reports that Nunes said the witnesses who also include "former CIA Director John Brennan, former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper and former acting Attorney General Sally Yates, who was fired by President Donald Trump in January after refusing to defend his travel ban executive order in court," were "being asked to testify willingly and that he did not plan to issue subpoenas at this point."

David Ignatius writes in his [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) column that Trump "has refused any hint of compromise on the Russia issue" and his "defiance has put his presidency on a collision course with Congress and the FBI."

In his column for the [Indianapolis Star](#) (3/7, 550K), Matthew Tully argues that it seems "quite reasonable to consider the possibility that Donald J. Trump will leave the presidency at some

point before the end of his current term." Tully adds that while Vice President Pence "would not be my preferred president," he is "not unhinged, he's not reckless and he's not mean. That alone guarantees he would be an upgrade."

Russian Billionaire's Plane, Trump Campaign Plane Were In Charlotte At Same Time.

[McClatchy](#) (3/7, Hall, 74K) reports that five days before the November election Russian billionaire Dmitry Rybolovlev's jet landed at Charlotte Douglas International Airport, and "Trump's campaign jet arrived on the same tarmac for an afternoon campaign rally in nearby Concord." Who was aboard Rybolovlev's jet and "whether the planes' near-simultaneous arrival facilitated another previously undisclosed Russian contact with Trump, his family or campaign associates remain unanswered questions." While the "proximity of their intersecting flights, coupled with evidence that Rybolovlev's plane was also in Las Vegas briefly on the same day as Trump, Oct. 30, has fueled internet plots," the White House "dismisses the matter as conspiratorial." Trump and Rybolovlev "say they have never met, although Trump sold a Palm Beach mansion to the Russian fertilizer magnate for \$95 million eight years earlier."

Former UK Spy Behind Trump Dossier Returns To Work. The [AP](#) (3/7) reports that Christopher Steele, the former British spy who compiled the "explosive and unproven dossier" on President Trump's "purported activities in Russia has returned to work." Steele, who "went into hiding in January after his name was published in connection with the dossier," said Tuesday that he is "really pleased" to be back in his London office.

WIKILEAKS POSTS MASSIVE TROVE OF APPARENT CIA DOCUMENTS. The posting of more than 8,000 pages of apparent CIA documents by WikiLeaks on Tuesday gets heavy coverage, leading one broadcast network newscast and getting coverage in every major national newspaper. Many reports call it a "bombshell," the biggest US intelligence breach since Edward Snowden leaked NSA materials through the same site. And while the White House has yet to comment, several reports note that President Trump declared his "love" of WikiLeaks during the presidential campaign when the site was releasing documents that proved harmful to Hillary Clinton's campaign.

The [CBS Evening News](#) (3/7, lead story, 2:30, Pelley, 11.17M) opened with the story, reporting that the CIA "has lost control of highly classified documents and computer code that described top-secret techniques for intercepting phone calls, reading encrypted text messages, and turning televisions into eavesdropping devices." WikiLeaks, "the anti-secrecy website, dumped thousands of pages of CIA documents in a breach of national security that is being compared tonight to Edward Snowden's theft at the NSA." Former acting CIA Director Michael Morell told CBS, "This is CIA's Edward Snowden. ... This is huge. In terms of what it will tell the adversaries, and we'll have to essentially start over in building tools to get information from our adversaries, just like we did with Snowden." (Snowden posted a [series of tweets](#) about the leak on Tuesday.)

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (3/7, story 2, 3:00, Muir, 14.63M) reported on the "bombshell involving the CIA," with WikiLeaks "posting what they say are thousands of documents from the CIA, exposing the agency's secrets." ABC's Brian Ross: "Officials tonight are calling it a devastating security breach for the CIA, revealing in fascinating details how the agency is using household electronic devices to spy on the targets. Is it authentic? The officials say it appears to be, the 8,700 documents and files posted on WikiLeaks reveal some of CIA programs with code names like 'After Midnight' and 'Brutal Kangaroo,' now in the hands of terrorists and foreign targets." Former CIA Director Michael Hayden: "Legitimate targets are now going to button up." Ross: "So this hurts?" Hayden: "Oh God, it's without question that it hurts."

[NBC Nightly News](#) (3/7, story 3, 2:20, Holt, 16.61M) also called it a "bombshell from WikiLeaks that claims to have released CIA secret tools used to hack into smartphones and secure messaging apps on them. Also, certain TVs. It represents another serious breach of US intelligence data following the NSA documents exposed by Edward Snowden." Brian Todd similarly said on [CNN's Situation Room](#) (3/7, 554K) that the "bombshell" leak of "some of the

CIA's most sophisticated and effective spying tools" could be "the biggest exposure of US intelligence gathering methods" since Snowden. [Fox News Special Report](#) (3/7, 1.53M) reported that WikiLeaks said the documents were obtained from a "isolated high-security network at the" CIA center for cyber intelligence in Langley, Virginia.

The [AP](#) (3/7, Gillum, Satter) says the documents were "described as secret files about CIA hacking tools the government employs to break into users' computers, mobile phones and even smart TVs from companies like Apple, Google, Microsoft and Samsung" and "describe clandestine methods for bypassing or defeating encryption, antivirus tools and other protective security features intended to keep the private information of citizens and corporations safe from prying eyes." [USA Today](#) (3/7, Rossman, 5.28M) reports that WikiLeaks "says the documents detail the size and scope of the CIA's hacking capabilities. The agency's hacking division had more than 5,000 users and produced more than a thousand trojans, viruses and 'weaponized' malware, WikiLeaks said in a statement."

The [New York Times](#) (3/7, Shane, Mazzetti, Rosenberg, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) says it "appears to be the largest leak of CIA documents in history," the "latest coup" for WikiLeaks "and a serious blow to the CIA, which uses its hacking abilities to carry out espionage against foreign targets." WikiLeaks said it "was only the first installment in a larger collection of secret CIA material, included 7,818 web pages with 943 attachments, many of them partly redacted by WikiLeaks editors to avoid disclosing the actual code for cyberweapons." However, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/7, Harris, Sonne, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports that WikiLeaks said it could still publish those details.

The [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Miller, Nakashima, 11.43M) reports that WikiLeaks "claimed to have gotten the files from a current or former CIA contractor. ... If legitimate, the release represents the latest major breach of sensitive US government data to be put on global display in humiliating fashion by WikiLeaks." The [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/7, Dave, Bennett, 4.52M) writes, "The government agents charged with uncovering foreign secrets have had their own laid bare."

[McClatchy](#) (3/7, Johnson, 74K) reports that CIA spokesman Jonathan Liu declined to comment on the authenticity of the documents, saying, "We do not comment on the authenticity or content of purported intelligence documents." House Intelligence Chairman Devin Nunes "called the WikiLeaks disclosure 'very, very serious.'"

Appearing on [CNN's Situation Room](#) (3/7, 554K), former CIA Director Leon Panetta said the leaks are "extremely dangerous" and "incredibly damaging to the ability of our intelligence people to...gather intelligence in order to protect our country." Panetta argued that the leaks could impact US relations with allies, who may now be "very cautious about sharing the kind of sensitive information we may need in order to be able to protect our security."

[USA Today](#) (3/7, Baig, 5.28M) considers whether "your smart televisions, smart phones and smart fridges [are] vulnerable to eavesdropping spies," writing that experts say it is possible. However, in another piece, [USA Today](#) (3/7, Wolf, 5.28M) writes that "the CIA most likely isn't bugging your iPhones and Androids, computers and smart TV," though it "also isn't helping you protect those devices from the vulnerabilities that help it snoop on the foreign terrorists and spies it targets." The [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Timberg, Nakashima, Dwoskin, 11.43M) says that "while many of the attack technologies" disclosed "had been previously discussed at cybersecurity conferences, experts were startled to see evidence that the CIA had turned so many theoretical vulnerabilities into functioning attack tools against staples of modern life."

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/7, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) says in an editorial that the publishing of the documents should prove that WikiLeaks' goal is to weaken the US, and warns that enemies of the US have scored a victory. But most [Twitter discussion](#) was favorable toward WikiLeaks, thanking the website for releasing the information. [Bloomberg Politics](#) (3/7, Syeed, Riley, Barr, 201K), the [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Miller, 272K), and [Politico](#) (3/7, Geller, 2.46M)

also report on the publication.

Trump's Campaign "Love" Of WikiLeaks Contrasted With Current Leak Concerns. In their reports, both [ABC World News Tonight](#) (3/7, story 2, 3:00, Muir, 14.63M) and the [CBS Evening News](#) (3/7, lead story, 2:30, Pelley, 11.17M) mentioned that during the presidential campaign, Donald Trump declared, "I love WikiLeaks." However, the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Johnson, Parker, 11.43M) reports, "now that he is in the White House, Trump is having to confront the threat of hacking, along with leaks from within his own administration – and, suddenly, he is not a fan." White House press secretary Sean Spicer "declined to comment on the latest WikiLeaks dump during a briefing with reporters Tuesday, saying it 'has not been fully evaluated.' But moments later, Spicer did decry leaks generally, saying they 'are threatening our national security.'"

Breitbart: Documents Show CIA Could Make Malware Attack Look Like It Originated In Russia. [Breitbart](#) (3/7, Nolan, 2.02M) reports that documents in the release show that the CIA "kept records of malware attacks supposedly stolen from outside agents, including the Russian government, used to 'misdirect attribution' of hacking sources." WikiLeaks said that the CIA's UMBRAGE team "maintains a library of application development techniques borrowed from in-the-wild malware...then 'collects and maintains a substantial library of attack techniques stolen from malware produced in other states including the Russian Federation.'" This means the CIA "could use a malware attack originally developed by another country to 'misdirect attribution' for the hack away from themselves."

Leak Heightens Tension Between Intelligence Community And Tech Sector. The [New York Times](#) (3/7, Goel, Wingfield, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) examines the impact on the tech sector, reporting that "major technology companies, including Apple, Google and Microsoft, declined to comment as they tried to assess how badly their core products had been compromised." But as happened in the wake of the Snowden case, "trust between intelligence agencies and Silicon Valley" has been "ruptured, yet again."

Surveillance Programs Exposed By Snowden Facing Reauthorization. [McClatchy](#) (3/7, Johnson, 74K) reports that nearly four years after Snowden "blew the lid off domestic spying, the vast surveillance programs cherished as the 'crown jewels' of the US intelligence establishment are about to spring back into public debate" as they will expire on December 31 unless they are reauthorized by Congress. While Trump's accusation that President Obama ordered the tapping of his phones, "a claim for which he has offered no evidence, has little to do with the coming debate," it is "an indication of the sensitivities surrounding surveillance practices that do not cleave easily along party lines."

TRUMP: MEDIA REPORTS OF STAFF INFIGHTING ARE "FAKE NEWS." President Trump [tweeted](#) yesterday, "Don't let the FAKE NEWS tell you that there is big infighting in the Trump Admin. We are getting along great, and getting major things done!" [USA Today](#) (3/7, Jackson, 5.28M) reports, meanwhile, that "reports of staff rivalries have followed Trump throughout his 45 days in the White House, and, before that, his presidential campaign," with "much of it" involving "Trump's top two aides, White House Chief of Staff Reince Priebus and chief strategist and senior counselor Steve Bannon." The stories "have cited anonymous backers of the Priebus and Bannon teams taking shots at each other, as well as other high-ranking Trump officials." [Politico](#) (3/7, Conway, 2.46M) says such "unflattering stories about the administration...appear to have bothered Trump."

TRUMP AIDE EPSHTEYN DEEMED "COMBATIVE," "DIFFICULT" BY TV NETWORKS. [Politico](#) (3/7, Karni, 2.46M) recounts an incident earlier this year in which White House official Boris Epshteyn, "a combative Trump loyalist tasked with plugging the president's message on television," threatened to "pull all West Wing officials from appearing on Fox News after a tense appearance on anchor Bill Hemmer's show." Politico cites "multiple sources familiar with the exchange" who said Epshteyn "got in a yelling match with a Fox News booker after Hemmer

pressed him for details of President Donald Trump's controversial executive order cracking down on immigration from Muslim-majority countries" and "threatened to pull White House officials from the network." Epshteyn "has added to the impression of an antagonistic White House by throwing his weight around in a manner that has further strained the relationship between the administration and the television networks." He "has earned a reputation as someone who is combative and sometimes difficult to work with, even when he arrives at studios as a guest of a network."

WPOST ANALYSIS: TRUMP'S TWEETS FOLLOW TOPICS COVERED ON "FOX AND FRIENDS." Writing for the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M), Jenna Johnson flatly asserts, "Early Tuesday morning, President Trump tuned into 'Fox and Friends.'" As evidence, Johnson says that Trump on Tuesday morning "tweeted half-a-dozen messages that seemed to directly respond to the show" on topics ranging from the release of Gitmo prisoners to the new GOP healthcare bill. Johnson details the various "Fox and Friends" reports and the President's subsequent tweets, and says the program "seems to be Trump's new favorite show, and the hosts are well aware of it."

White House: Trump Has No Plans To Cut Back On Tweeting. The [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Boyer, 272K) reports that in the wake of "Trump's latest headline-grabbing tweet storm on everything from wiretaps to an erroneous claim on Gitmo detainees released by President Obama, the White House said Tuesday the president has no intention of backing off or backing down. 'I think the voters made it clear, one of the things that they appreciate about him is his ability to be authentic and speak very forcefully and very directly to the American people,' said White House press secretary Sean Spicer." Speaking at a White House press briefing, Spicer "also said the president isn't likely to change his social media habits. 'That's an aspect I think that was central to why he was elected,' Mr. Spicer said. 'He's not a canned politician that's going to give the same staid answers over and over again.'"

USA Today/Suffolk Poll: By 2-1, Public Disapproves Of Trump's Temperament. [USA Today](#) (3/7, Page, 5.28M) reports that in a USA Today/Suffolk University nationwide survey of 1,000 US voters, taken March 1-5, President Trump receives "high marks for leadership amid growing economic optimism." However, "questions about his temperament and his tweets have cost him the political boost that a president traditionally gets from that good news." In the poll, Trump gets "little bounce from his well-received address to Congress last week or from a brightening view of the country's direction. Instead, 47% approve of the job he's doing and 44% disapprove, a bit better than some other recent polls but a poor rating by historic standards." USA Today adds, "By 2-1, those surveyed disapprove of Trump's temperament, a much more negative rating than he gets for his policy positions. Six in 10, including 40% of Republicans, complain that he tweets too much."

GROUP ACCUSES TRUMP ADVISER ICAHN OF VIOLATING LOBBYING RULES. [Politico](#) (3/8, Wolff, 2.46M) reported that the "consumer advocacy group" Public Citizen today will file "a complaint to Congress" that accuses President Trump's "friend and fellow billionaire Carl Icahn of violating lobbying rules by pushing the White House to change the federal ethanol regulations." The group claims "Icahn, his company Icahn Enterprises and the CVR oil refining company he owns failed to register as lobbyists, yet pushed the White House to change the EPA's decade-old rules on ethanol – a move that would save Icahn's company hundreds of millions of dollars." The President tapped Icahn to serve "as the White House's special adviser for regulatory reform in December, but said he would 'not be serving as a federal employee or a special government employee and will not have any specific duties.'"

LAWYER SAYS CASE DESERVES ANOTHER LOOK AMID WORD OF PENCE'S USE OF PRIVATE EMAIL. The [AP](#) (3/7) reports that Democratic attorney William Groth, who is suing Vice President Pence "for refusing to release public records as Indiana's governor says his case should get a fresh look after revelations that the Republican used a private AOL email account to conduct state business." Groth has asked Indiana's Supreme Court "to send his lawsuit back to a

lower court to examine the private emails," citing "recent news stories revealing details of Pence's use of the account."

IN MEETING WITH SESSIONS, CIVIL RIGHTS LEADERS EXPRESS CONCERN OVER RECENT DOJ ACTIONS. [USA Today](#) (3/7, Johnson, 5.28M) reports that during their first meeting with Attorney General Sessions, national civil rights advocates on Tuesday expressed fear that "recent Justice Department actions were threatening voter and transgender protections and urged the nation's chief law enforcement officer not to pull back from pursuing local policing reforms." The leaders described the meeting as "constructive and cordial," but "said they won no commitments."

Sessions Tells Civil Rights Leaders He Will Review Status Of Garner Probe. [Reuters](#) (3/7, Harte), however, reports that US civil rights leaders said Sessions "promised on Tuesday to examine the status of a federal probe into the case of Eric Garner, an unarmed black man whose 2014 death at the hands of New York City police sparked protests." Garner died in July 2014 "after a white police officer put him in a chokehold," and the Justice Department's investigation into his death "has been stalled by internal disagreements over whether federal investigators have enough evidence to proceed, according to news reports." The Rev. Al Sharpton "urged Sessions to 'move aggressively' on the case, Sharpton told reporters." According to Reuters, the Garner case "was the only issue on which Sessions promised to take action during Tuesday's 45-minute meeting with six civil rights advocates who raised concerns over his stance on police reform, voting laws and minority rights, the advocates told a news conference."

NYTIMES ANALYSIS: PRUITT FILLING TOP EPA OFFICES WITH CLIMATE CHANGE SKEPTICS. The [New York Times](#) (3/7, Davenport, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that since his confirmation, EPA Administrator Pruitt "has moved to stock the top offices of the agency with like-minded conservatives – many of them skeptics of climate change and all of them intent on rolling back environmental regulations that they see as overly intrusive and harmful to business." The Times says that "friends and critics" say Pruitt "seems intent on building an E.P.A. leadership that is fundamentally at odds with the career officials, scientists and employees who carry out the agency's missions," which "might be a recipe for strife and gridlock."

Environmental Groups Vow To Fight Trump Effort To Roll Back Clean Power Plan. The [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Wolfgang, 272K) reports that with President Trump expected to take action this week to "roll back the Clean Power Plan," environmental activist groups "have joined forces for what they say will be a tooth-and-nail legal battle that could drag on for years." While Trump and Pruitt "have vowed to scrap the plan...environmentalists say such a move will not be as easy at the White House believes." During a conference call with reporters Tuesday, the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Sierra Club, the Environmental Defense Fund and other groups discussed "their legal strategy to push back against the administration's pending moves."

SENATE VOTES TO REVOKE OBAMA LAND MANAGEMENT RULE. In what [Reuters](#) (3/7, Volcovici) calls "the latest move by the Republican-led Congress to undo Obama administration environmental regulations it sees as a burden," the Senate voted 51-48 Tuesday to revoke "a rule that aimed to give the public more input into federal land management decisions." The resolution would "repeal the Bureau of Land Management's Resource Management Planning rule, known as BLM 2.0, finalized in December by the Obama administration."

FISHERMEN SUE ADMINISTRATION OVER OBAMA-ERA MARINE MONUMENT. A coalition of fisherman sued the Administration Tuesday over the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument, which was designated by President Obama last year. The [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Wolfgang, 272K) reports the fisherman argue that "the monument will crush the commercial fishing industry and devastate communities on the New England coast." The Times says the case "will offer clues as to whether President Trump will revoke some of his predecessor's most controversial national monuments." While "conservative lawmakers and others" have pushed Trump "to revoke some of those more controversial designations, including

the New England monument," it is "unclear whether the administration is willing to go to court to defend Mr. Obama's monuments."

SAN BERNARDINO LETTER ASKING TRUMP FOR HELP RAISES LOCAL CONTROVERSY.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/7, Esquivel, 4.52M) reports a letter sent by San Bernardino's mayor, city attorney, city manager, police chief, and all City Council members in mid-February asking President Trump for federal assistance has created controversy. City leaders were hoping for help in the form of an "initial surge" of federal law enforcement aid, financial support, or ways to combat drugs and violence, but its general vagueness and specific request for assistance in marijuana enforcement aroused fear. Some worry the federal government may respond by cracking down on the city's undocumented immigrant community. Others say the letter counters the spirit of the measures that city and state voters adopted in November to regulate marijuana. San Bernardino Valley College student Rocio Aguayo says the letter "is criminalizing us," instead of respecting voters' wishes.

PROGRESSIVES THREATEN DEMOCRATS WITH PRIMARY CHALLENGES OVER SUPPORT FOR GORSUCH.

The [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Swoyer, 272K) reports that progressive "activists are increasingly upset at what they see as too little opposition to President Trump's Supreme Court nominee," Judge Neil Gorsuch, "and are even threatening to run primary challengers against" Democratic senators who back his nomination. The Times says, "Nearly a dozen influential liberal groups" sent "a letter this week calling Judge Gorsuch 'an ultra-conservative' and demanding a more unified opposition. 'We need you to do better,' the groups said in the letter, which was organized by NARAL Pro-Choice America."

FIRST LADY TO HOST WHITE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY LUNCHEON. The [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Heil, 11.43M) "Reliable Source" column reports that "this week, invites to a Wednesday luncheon at the White House thrown by the first lady hit the inboxes some of Washington's power-women set." The event marks International Women's Day and Women's History Month, "which President Trump designated in an order last week. ... Look for first daughter Ivanka Trump to be front and center at the events, as well as Dina Powell, a top White House adviser whose portfolio includes women's issues."

TRUMP GREETES ELEMENTARY STUDENTS VISITING WHITE HOUSE. [NBC Nightly News](#) (3/7, story 8, 0:25, Holt, 16.61M) reported President Trump made a surprise appearance to greet a group of visitors Tuesday, the first day of White House tours during his presidency. According to [USA Today](#) (3/7, Estepa, 5.28M), he encouraged the group composed mostly of 5th grade students from Briarwood Christian School of Birmingham, Alabama to "work hard, everybody, work hard." The scene reportedly "happened to play out" in front of a portrait of Hillary Clinton.

SCHWARZENEGGER ON TRUMP: "I THINK HE'S IN LOVE WITH ME." [USA Today](#) (3/7, Estepa, 5.28M) reports Arnold Schwarzenegger said "I think he's in love with me" in response to allegations of President Trump's obsession with him Tuesday on SiriusXM's The Michael Smerconish Program. USAToday notes the President's statement that the former California governor was "fired by his bad (pathetic) ratings" from The New Celebrity Apprentice in a [tweet](#) and at the National Prayer Breakfast. Schwarzenegger also emphasized the importance of middle-of-the-road politics that serve American citizens, and he advocated for redistricting reform.

TRUMP TO EAT DINNER WITH CRUZ AND HIS WIFE AT WHITE HOUSE TONIGHT. The [Daily Caller](#) (3/7, Collins, 898K) reported that President Trump "is scheduled to host" Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX) and his wife, Heidi, "at the White House on Wednesday." The three "will reportedly have dinner together Wednesday night. The White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the purpose of Trump and Cruz's meeting."

AFTER WHITE HOUSE MEETING, GRAHAM JOKES HE GAVE HIS NEW PHONE NUMBER TO TRUMP. [Politico](#) (3/7, Quigley, 2.46M) reported Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) quipped "that his Tuesday meeting with President Donald Trump had gone so well he gave the president his

new phone number – a detente of sorts after Trump infamously read aloud Graham's cellphone number during a campaign event in 2015." On Twitter, Graham said, "How good was the meeting with @POTUS? I gave him my NEW cell phone number." Graham also tweeted, "President Trump is strongly committed to rebuilding our military which is music to my ears," and "is in deal-making mode and I hope Congress is like-minded."

TRUMP MET WITH TMZ FOUNDER IN OVAL OFFICE LAST WEEK. The [New York Times](#) (3/7, Grynbaum, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that since being inaugurated, President Trump has met "with heads of state, titans of industry, economic advisers and public health specialists. And the founder of TMZ." The President, says the Times, "in a meeting last Wednesday that went unmentioned on his public schedule, spent about an hour in the Oval Office chatting with Harvey Levin, the tabloid emperor whose Los Angeles-based news site and television show are leading purveyors of gossip and scandal." The Times adds that the President and Levin "have some history: The TMZ chieftain interviewed Mr. Trump for a Fox News special, 'Objectified: Donald Trump,' that aired last fall. 'The show was a huge success, and the two were discussing future opportunities,' Hope Hicks, a White House spokeswoman, wrote by email on Tuesday."

RNC CHIEF: "WE HAVE TO KEEP THIS NEW COALITION OF TRUMP VOTERS ENGAGED."

In a profile of RNC chief Ronna Romney McDaniel, [McClatchy](#) (3/7, Glueck, 74K) says, "She publicly bucked her own famous family members – particularly Uncle Mitt – and much of the Michigan old guard with her early and enthusiastic backing of Trump, embracing the grass-roots energy that fueled his campaign while attempting to corral support from the skeptical GOP establishment." Speaking recently with McClatchy, McDaniel "addressed her challenge of balancing a Trump-adoring grass roots that is more loyal to him than to the Republican brand with the more traditional GOP establishment." Said McDaniel, "We have to keep this new coalition of Trump voters engaged. And they represent Democrats, more independents and people who hadn't voted for a long time because they lost their faith in government."

SOROS DONATED \$246M TO 100 PARTNERS OF WOMEN'S MARCH. The [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Richardson, 272K) reports, "Behind the Women's March on Washington and a Day Without a Woman is a rich man: liberal billionaire George Soros." The Times says the "conservative" Media Research Center on Tuesday released a report that said "Soros and his Open Society Foundations contributed \$246 million between 2010 and 2014 to 100 of the 544 groups listed as partners of the Women's March. The Women's March is the main US organizer of the Wednesday worldwide general strike called a Day Without a Woman...which encourages women to skip work, wear red and forego shopping."

WTimes: "A Day Without A Woman" Sparks "Backlash." In another report, the [Washington Times](#) (3/6, Richardson, 272K) reports that "A Day Without a Woman" is drawing criticism "from the right and the left for its mixed political messages, as well as the havoc caused by the closure of some schools Wednesday driven by anticipated staff absences. At least two large school districts – Alexandria City Public Schools in Virginia and Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools in North Carolina – have announced that they will close in anticipation of hundreds of staff absences, igniting a backlash from parents." The Times adds, "Despite the protest's staunch left-wing agenda, even some progressives are uncomfortable with the event, arguing that only 'privileged' women have the wherewithal to take a day off without economic consequences."

POLL SHOWS DEMOCRAT OSSOFF, REPUBLICAN HANDEL LEADING CROWDED PRICE SPECIAL. In an online report on the special election to succeed ex-Rep. Tom Price, [WXIA-TV Atlanta](#) (3/6, Darnell, 415K) said that a Trafalgar Group [survey](#) of 450 likely GA6 special election voters, taken March 2-3, shows ex-congressional aide Jon Ossoff (D) leading the crowded jungle primary with 18.31%, followed by ex-Georgia Secretary of State Karen Handel (R) at 17.98%, and Johns Creek City Councilman Bob Gray (R) at 13.42%. No other candidate topped 8%; 33% remain undecided. If no candidate tops 50% in the primary, the top two vote-getters, regardless of party affiliation, will advance to a runoff. Price resigned from Congress after being confirmed as

President Trump's HHS secretary.

GOP Hopeful Moody Out With His First TV Ad Of Race. The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (3/6, Bluestein, 1.41M) reported that ex-state Sen. Dan Moody (R-GA) is out with his first TV ad of the special election – “a 60-second spot that features braying donkeys, stumbling elephants and [the candidate] declaring himself ready to clean up after both of them.” As Moody is seen “standing by a waist-high pile of...something,” a narrator says, “Georgia needs the strong, silent type in Congress.” Moody, “one of 11 Republicans – and 18 candidates overall – in the free-for-all April 18 special election,” then says, “I’m going to need a bigger shovel.”

GOP-ALIGNED SUPER PAC QUICKLY HITS QUIST WITH \$700K AD CAMPAIGN. [The Hill](#) (3/6, Hagen, 1.25M) reported that the Congressional Leadership Fund, “a super PAC aligned with the House GOP leadership,” is out with “a \$700,000 ad campaign attacking” musician Rob Quist (D), who is battling businessman Greg Gianforte (R) in the special election to succeed former Rep. Ryan Zinke. The spot raps Quist as “being ‘out of tune’ and ‘too liberal’ for Montana,” and criticizes him “for supporting military budget cuts and higher taxes.” The ad began airing “on cable and broadcast in the state, as well as on digital platforms,” on Monday – one day after Montana Democrats selected Quist as the party’s nominee during a special nominating convention. Zinke stepped down from Congress after being confirmed as President Trump’s new Interior secretary.

[Roll Call](#) (3/6, Pathé, 63K) reported, “Democrats targeted this seat in 2016, but Zinke won re-election by 16 points, while Trump” carried Montana “by more than 20 points. Inside Elections with Nathan L. Gonzales rates the seat Solid Republican.”

GILLESPIE, STEWART TRADE SHOTS AT CANDIDATES’ FORUM. In a report on the 2017 race to succeed term-limited Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D-VA), the [Roanoke \(VA\) Times](#) (3/7, Yoon, 234K) says that during a GOP candidates’ forum hosted by Franklin County and Smith Mountain Lake Republicans, ex-RNC chief Ed Gillespie (R) and Prince William County Supervisor Corey Stewart (R) “sniped at each other, overshadowing the other two contenders,” distillery owner Denver Riggleman (R) and state Sen. Frank Wagner (R). The Times says Gillespie and Stewart traded jabs over their positions on the “removal of the Robert E. Lee statue in Charlottesville,” and “sparked on immigration and sanctuary cities.” In addition, Gillespie hit Stewart “for being fired from the Trump campaign,” saying, “When I call the Trump administration, I will get my calls returned because I was not fired for incompetence by the Trump folks.”

Trump A Key Focus In Democratic Primary. Meanwhile, [The Hill](#) (3/7, Hagen, 1.25M) reported on the Democratic primary battle between Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam (D-VA) and ex-Rep. Tom Perriello (D-VA), saying that while Northam “was expected to have the primary field to himself, thanks in part to endorsements from establishment Democratic figures” like McAuliffe, Perriello’s surprise entry has “jump-started the once quiet race by railing against Trump.” Said University of Virginia political scientist Geoffrey Skelley, “It’s pretty clear that Perriello is shaping his campaign as very much an anti-Trump campaign.” Even so, Northam “hasn’t shied away from attacking Trump. When asked if he sees the” contest “as a referendum on” Trump, “he replied unequivocally, ‘No question.’”

HUNTSMAN MEETS WITH HATCH, WON’T SAY IF HE’LL MOUNT 2018 RUN. On its website, the [Salt Lake \(UT\) Tribune](#) (3/7, Burr, 426K) reported that ex-Gov. Jon Huntsman (R-UT), “under consideration to be the US ambassador to Russia, glad-handed his way through the U.S. Capitol on Tuesday,” accompanied by Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT), “whom he wouldn’t rule out running against in 2018. Huntsman told The Washington Post’s Robert Costa that he was there ‘just to see a friend,’” and “demurred when asked, in front of Hatch, whether he’d run for Hatch’s seat. ‘He wouldn’t [say],’ Costa tweeted. ‘Slightly awkward.’” Hatch has yet to announce whether he’ll seek another term in 2018, “despite saying in his 2012 bid for re-election that it would be his last run.”

RUBIO LOSING A SECOND FLORIDA OFFICE OVER PROTESTS. On its website, [WJAX-TV](#)

Jacksonville, FL (3/7, Jones, 30K) reported that Sen. Marco Rubio's Jacksonville office is shutting down, his "second district office in Florida to close following protests." Rubio spokesperson Christina Mandreucci said, "In Jacksonville, these protesters weren't just impacting our two-person office, they were impacting the children being served next door at a pediatric behavioral clinic, which is why we understand the decision not to renew our lease." WJAX-TV added that Rubio's "Tampa staff was asked to leave after the building owner said rallies had become too disruptive to the other tenants."

On its website, [WTVJ-TV](#) Miami (3/7, 155K) reported, "Protesters have gotten...Rubio pushed out of his office space in Jacksonville, Florida, days after a landlord said the lease for his Tampa office wouldn't be renewed because of vocal crowds of demonstrators making weekly visits." WTVJ-TV added, "Jeff Alstadt, an organizer of Indivisible Clay County," said "he disputes that the protesters have been disruptive. He says they pride themselves on 'being respectful' and added that Rubio's staff also is respectful."

FRANKEN JETTISONS OVER \$41K IN DONATIONS FROM BOSTON LAW FIRM UNDER FEDERAL INVESTIGATION. The [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) (3/7, Rao, 1.27M) reports that Sen. Al Franken "has relinquished \$40,822 in donations from a Boston law firm under investigation by federal regulators for linking employee bonuses to campaign contributions." Franken's "office confirmed this week that the money, which" the senator "deposited to the US Treasury, came from Thornton Law Firm. The admission came after the Federal Election Commission (FEC) sent Franken a letter asking him to identify the donors. Democratic organizations and politicians have returned more than \$1 million from Thornton since an investigation by the Boston Globe and Center for Responsive Politics revealed that the firm reimbursed partners for millions in political contributions to Democratic politicians."

STOCKS FINISH LOWER. [Reuters](#) (3/7, Reuters) reports that stocks ended the day lower Tuesday "as weakness in drug and financial shares sent the S&P 500 and the Dow Jones Industrial Average to their first consecutive sessions of declines in more than a month." The Dow lost 29.58 points to close at 20,924.76, the S&P 500 finished 6.92 points lower at 2,368.39, and the Nasdaq fell 15.25 points to 5,833.93.

NYTIMES ANALYSIS: BANKS HOPE FOR FEWER LENDING BIAS LAWSUITS AMID "DEREGULATORY FERVOR." According to the [New York Times](#) (3/7, Finkle, Subscription Publication, 13.9M), banks are hopeful the Administration's "deregulatory fervor" will result in reduced enforcement of discriminatory lending prevention laws, and consumer financial regulation specialist at Ballard Spahr says it is likely the Justice Department "will be more selective in the cases that they pursue." Meanwhile, National Consumer Law Center Director of Litigation Stuart Rossman said consumer advocates are "watching with great interest and concern." Banks have difficulty interpreting regulators' demands, says the Times. Consumer advocates are hopeful the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau will continue what its fair-lending office head Patrice Ficklin calls "vigorous enforcement."

COMMANDER SAYS MARINES ACTED "SELFISHLY AND UNPROFESSIONALLY" IN NUDE PHOTO SCANDAL. [USA Today](#) (3/7, Michaels, 5.28M) reports Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Robert Neller issued a video statement Tuesday, saying the Marines involved in the female nude photo sharing scandal acted "selfishly and unprofessionally." He encouraged victimized individuals to report the incident to superiors, a chaplain, or legal counsel, and he requires officers to protect anyone who files a report from retaliation. According to the [AP](#) (3/7, Baldor), Neller emphasizes Marine Corps values in the "sharp" four-minute video, and he said those involved had "forgotten [the] fundamental truths" that they must treat fellow service members with dignity and respect. He suggested that those not committed to "being a good teammate and improving cohesion" should consider whether they want to serve as Marines.

JUDGE REFUSES TO BLOCK DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE. The [Washington Times](#) (3/7, Richardson, 272K) reports that the Standing Rock Sioux tribe on Tuesday "lost another legal

challenge to the Dakota Access pipeline, leaving the tribe with few remaining avenues as the project moves within days of being ready to deliver oil." US District Judge James A. Boasberg turned down a request for a preliminary injunction filed by the tribe and the Cheyenne River Sioux, "ruling that their claim based on the Religious Freedom Restoration Act was unlikely to succeed." A status report filed by Energy Transfer Partners with the court "said the final ream pass at Lake Oahe is expected to be finished this week, meaning oil can begin flowing as early as March 13." Standing Rock Chairman Dave Archambault II "called the ruling 'disappointing, but not surprising,' adding that he was confident that the tribe would prevail in its ongoing lawsuit. 'Trump and his friends at Big Oil have not won,' he said in a statement.

[Reuters](#) (3/7, Gardner) reports that the tribes "had argued that the pipeline would render water they use for religious ceremonies spiritually impure even if the pipeline goes under Lake Oahe," and they said "the pipeline was reminiscent of an ancient prophesy of a Black Snake that would harm natives and that they could not use other water supplies in the region because they had been polluted by decades of mining." Judge Boasberg said in his ruling "that the Cheyenne tribe 'remained silent as to the Black Snake prophesy and its concerns about oil in the pipeline under Lake Oahe' during two years of legal disputes against the line."

Standing Rock Sioux To Lead American Indian March On Washington Friday. The [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Heim, 11.43M) reports the Native Nations Rise movement descended on Washington Tuesday for four days of cultural workshops, an interfaith service at the National Cathedral, and a Friday morning march on the White House and Lafayette Square rally. The members of American Indian tribes from across the country are reportedly gathering to assert their rights and raise awareness of issues that impact Native Americans. The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Indigenous Environmental Network, and Native Organizers Alliance will lead the march.

BLACK LIVES MATTER PROTESTS NEW CHICAGO POLICE USE-OF-FORCE PROPOSAL.

The [Chicago Sun-Times](#) (3/7, Babwin, Charles, 798K) reports that a draft of a new Chicago Police Department use-of-force policy released on Tuesday "would give officers more latitude in deciding when to fire their weapons, backing off an earlier proposal that the police union had said was too restrictive and could have put officers in danger." The new draft "backs off a suggestion in October that officers not use force unless 'all other reasonable alternatives have been exhausted,'" a proposal "that prompted concern from the city's main police union that it was 'too restrictive and would endanger officers who need to protect themselves in various situations.'" The proposal "now says that officers are required to use de-escalation tactics only when it does not put their personal safety at risk." The Sun-Times adds that this change "is angering Black Lives Matter activists and others upset over police killings of Laquan McDonald and other young black men."

DETROIT POLICE, PROSECUTORS SPAR OVER HANDLING OF CRIMINAL CASES. The [Detroit News](#) (3/7, Hunter, 473K) reports that "a killing in an auto parts store parking lot" in Detroit last month "has intensified a longstanding rift between Detroit police and Wayne County prosecutors over how criminal cases are handled." Police said the February 25 killing of Jeffrey Davis on Detroit's west side "could have been prevented if prosecutors had signed a request nine months ago to charge him with a May 2014 killing," in which "witnesses told investigators Davis was alone in a house with the victim, armed with a pistol, and that he hurriedly threw some clothes in a bag and fled the scene after telling people the victim was dead." Investigators said "the witness statements were enough to get the warrant signed, which they requested in May 2016," but prosecutors "told The News they sent the request back to police in October because it required more investigation."

EMANUEL, RAUNER AIDE ENGAGE IN NAME CALLING OVER BUDGET CRISIS. The [Chicago Tribune](#) (3/7, Geiger, Garcia, 2.54M) reports Mayor Rahm Emanuel said Governor Bruce Rauner is "the emperor [who] wears no clothes" because he is to blame for the budget crisis at a Tuesday ribbon-cutting, while Rauner spokeswoman Eleni Demretzis replied that the mayor "has

a Napoleon complex." Illinois lawmakers held hearing Tuesday to ask Rauner's agency leaders what kind of cuts were possible to make ends meet, and Senate President John Cullerton said Senate Democrats would "await an indication that there is Republican support for the proposals they helped put together." Rauner countered that he had continually encouraged GOP legislators to "keep negotiating" to "get a reasonable compromise."

CLINTON HOPING "A WAVE OF YOUNG WOMEN" SEEK ELECTED OFFICE. On its website, [CNN](#) (3/7, Merica, 29.79M) reported that Hillary Clinton on Tuesday spoke "at a women's empowerment event in New York," where she emphasized "the need for more women in politics, while joking about her own resilience after her November election loss to President Donald Trump." Clinton "credited her family, friends and many of the women she had mentored with giving her the strength to bounce back after losing to Trump."

[Politico](#) (3/7, Conway, 2.46M) reported that Clinton, "accepting an award at a New York luncheon for the nonprofit organization Girls Inc.," told the audience, "Let us hope there is a wave of young women running for office in America," adding, "And let's be sure we support them in every way we can. Let's help them shatter stereotypes and lift each other up." Politico added that Clinton "acknowledged that some women are currently 'discouraged' – a reference, seemingly, to her supporters dismayed by" Trump's win. [The Hill](#) (3/7, Greenwood, 1.25M) reported that Clinton "briefly addressed her experience coping with that" defeat, "saying 'life hands all of us setbacks.'"

DC COUNCIL BREAKS WITH MAYOR TO ASK GOP NOT TO RENEW SCHOOL VOUCHER PROGRAM. According to the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, Davis, Portnoy, 11.43M), eight of the DC Council's 13 members sent a letter Tuesday pressing House Republicans to do away with the District's school voucher program, breaking with Mayor Muriel Bowser's support of the program. The letter said the 2004 program is an inappropriate use of tax dollars because there is no evidence it has led to better student outcomes, and the council members request that Congress "respect" their "wishes...on the quintessentially local matter of education." Education Committee Chairman David Grosso claimed the House voucher bill is a political chip President Trump and Secretary DeVos could use to show follow through on their promise to expand private school vouchers. The letter constitutes a reversal from 2016 when eight members supported Bowser's position.

PUBLIC CITIZEN: BOWSER MAYORAL CAMPAIGN DONORS EXCEEDED LEGAL LIMITS. The [Washington Times](#) (3/7, McDermott, 272K) reports Public Citizen filed a complaint with the DC Office of Campaign Finance Tuesday that alleges Mayor Muriel Bowser's 2014 campaign received 23 contributions "that appear to violate the campaign contribution limit." The government watchdog's analysis of Office of Campaign Finance records said the offending contributions might exceed the \$2,000 legal limit, or there might have been record-keeping errors. 40 percent of donors for the excess contributions are associated with the real estate industry, and 28 percent are in the construction and health industries. Aquene Freechild, co-director of the group's Democracy Is For People campaign, said in a statement that the "apparent abuses" emphasize the need for "more rigorous enforcement" and "meaningful reform."

HOUSE PASSES BILL TO REQUIRE LACTATION SPACES IN FEDERAL BUILDINGS. According to [USA Today](#) (3/7, Gaudiano, 5.28M), the Fairness for Breastfeeding Mothers Act passed the House by voice Tuesday evening. The provision sponsored by DC Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton would require federal buildings to allow mothers easy access to a private space – other than a restroom – for pumping breast milk or breastfeeding. The February 28 Congressional Budget Office report estimated the bill would cost less than \$500,000 annually to implement. While there is currently no Senate sponsor, and the Senate did not take up the measure as a part of another bill last year, Norton is confident it will become law because its strong bipartisan support in the House is "unheard of."

BOOK BY "LEFTY LEGEND" PLEADS FOR RETURN TO NEW DEAL SPIRIT IN DEMOCRATIC PARTY. According to the [New York Times](#) (3/7, Martin, Subscription Publication,

13.9M), the soon-to-be published “cri de cœur” by “lefty legend” Charles Peters, the 91-year-old founder and editor of the Washington Monthly, is a “desperate plea to his country to resist the temptations of greed, materialism and elitism.” In “We Do Our Part,” Peters laments the loss of shared purpose that propelled America out of the Great Depression and onto victory in the Second World War. He is optimistic that Democrats can win back blue-collar white voters if the party shows once again its dedication to serving the common man, like it did with the New Deal, rather than the liberal professional class. In light of the \$65 million book deal for former President Obama and Michelle Obama, the Times says Peter’s argument against having “our role models continue to cash in” is “well timed.”

MONTICELLO RESTORATION PROJECT AIMS TO ACCURATELY PORTRAY LIFE OF SALLY HEMINGS. The [CBS Evening News](#) (3/7, story 10, 2:15, Pelley, 11.17M) Correspondent Chip Reid reported the restoration of Thomas Jefferson’s home, Monticello, includes the room where Sally Hemings once lived. Once a public restroom, the space will now be part of an exhibit that will portray the daily life on the estate more accurately, said Niya Bates, Public Historian of Slavery and African American Life at Monticello. The CBS News featured TV host Shannon Lanier, a descendant of Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings, saying, “It’s about time Monticello is restoring the stories and history of Sally Hemings.”

WPOST: TRUMP’S ATTACKS ON THE MEDIA ENCOURAGE TYRANTS. The [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) editorializes that President Trump’s criticism of the US news media as “the enemy of the American People” and his use of the term “fake news” demonstrate his perception of the institution “in strictly promotional terms, not as a mechanism of democracy to probe and criticize.” This behavior has had “global consequences,” and “tyrants everywhere [have] perked up,” says the Post. It cites Cambodia’s recent warning against a service that provides “straightforward and therefore threatening” coverage that “freedom of expression is subject to law and must respect the state’s power.” China’s People’s Daily branded Western media coverage of a Chinese human rights lawyer’s testimony of torture as “FAKE NEWS,” and the Russian Foreign Ministry website now contains a page for “fake news.”

AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY OFFICIAL: DEMOCRATS HYPOCRITICAL ON SECRET BALLOTS. In a [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/7, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) op-ed, Akash Chougule, director of policy at Americans for Prosperity, a Koch brothers-backed group, writes that Democrats attempted to keep their votes secret in the recent election of Tom Perez as the new DNC chairman, even though doing so was a violation of the organizations bylaws. Chougule accuses Democrats of hypocrisy, saying that while they wanted secret balloting for DNC members, the party – siding with organized labor – has long attempted to prevent workers from casting secret votes in union elections.

Editorial Wrap-Up:

NEW YORK TIMES. “No Wonder Republicans Hid The Health Bill.” The [New York Times](#) (3/7, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) writes in an editorial that, under the House GOP’s ACA replacement plan, “working people lose health care” while “the rich would come out winners.” For now, “the GOP’s various factions are...haggling over just how many millions of Americans they are willing to harm.”

“Rising Tensions With North Korea.” A [New York Times](#) (3/8, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) editorial says North Korea will likely pose the “first national security crisis” for President Trump, and how he “intends to handle this brewing crisis is unclear, but he has shown an inclination to respond aggressively.” The Times argues that “the Obama and Bush administrations got nowhere by further isolating the already-reclusive nation,” so “at this point, only a new round of engagement aimed at getting North Korea to freeze its nuclear and missile programs, and tougher sanctions to back that up, holds any reasonable promise of working.”

“Mr Erdogan’s Jaw-Dropping Hypocrisy.” A [New York Times](#) (3/8, Subscription Publication,

13.9M) editorial calls out Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan for comparing Germany to the Nazis for barring two Turkish ministers, “for security reasons,” from holding campaign rallies there, while he himself “has jailed tens of thousands of people, shuttered more than 150 media companies and called a referendum in April to enlarge his powers.” While “some furious German politicians have urged Chancellor Angela Merkel to tell Mr. Erdogan that he is not welcome in Germany,” the Times argues that “the better response is to continuously remind Mr. Erdogan, his surrogates and his people that the freedoms so many Turks find in Germany are being systematically and shamelessly destroyed in Turkey.”

WASHINGTON POST. “An ObamaCare Repeal That’s Both Heartless And Reckless.” In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) remarks on the House GOP’s ACA replacement bill’s “suspicious similarities to Obamacare,” but adds that “it marks a sharp departure in at least one crucial respect: fiscal responsibility.” Ultimately, passing the bill would allow “House Republican leaders to flex their legislative muscles in the face of their intransigent right wing,” but “a lot of poor people would pay a substantial price to give them that satisfaction. Chances are, so would the federal deficit.”

“Stop The Grandstanding On Planned Parenthood.” In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) says a White House proposal to Planned Parenthood to maintain the group’s funding if it stops providing abortion services “never stood a chance of even being considered by the group,” but “the fact that the idea was broached at all is significant as the latest sign that Republicans recognize the problems – and likely political repercussions – of cutting off funds to an organization that is held in high regard by the American public for providing critical health-care services.” The Post calls on the White House to “stop the grandstanding and allow this respected health organization to continue its work unimpeded.”

“Trump’s Attacks On The Media Are A Gift To Tyrants Everywhere.” The [Washington Post](#) (3/7, 11.43M) editorializes that President Trump’s criticism of the US news media as “the enemy of the American People” and his use of the term “fake news” demonstrate his perception of the institution “in strictly promotional terms, not as a mechanism of democracy to probe and criticize.” This behavior has had “global consequences,” and “tyrants everywhere [have] perked up,” says the Post. It cites Cambodia’s recent warning against a service that provides “straightforward and therefore threatening” coverage that “freedom of expression is subject to law and must respect the state’s power.” China’s People’s Daily branded Western media coverage of a Chinese human rights lawyer’s testimony of torture as “FAKE NEWS,” and the Russian Foreign Ministry website now contains a page for “fake news.”

WALL STREET JOURNAL. “A Historic Health-Care Moment.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/7, Subscription Publication, 6.37M), editorializes that the debate over the House GOP’s ACA replacement bill offers a clear test of whether Republicans will be able to deliver on their election mandate, casts the bill as an imperfect, but valuable first step, and urges its enactment into law.

“WikiLeaks New Damage.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/7, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) says in an editorial that WikiLeaks’ posting of more than 8,000 pages of apparent CIA documents should prove that WikiLeaks’ goal is to weaken the US, and warns that enemies of the US have scored a victory.

“The Pyongyang-Beijing Axis.” A [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/7, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) editorial welcomes the deployment of the THAAD system by the US and urges China to reconsider its support for North Korea.

The Big Picture:

HEADLINES FROM TODAY’S FRONT PAGES.

Wall Street Journal:

[WikiLeaks Dumps Trove Of Purported CIA Hacking Tools](#)
[GOP's Health Plan Draws Skepticism On Capitol Hill](#)
[Central Banks Ratchet Up Reserves](#)
[Brazil, Widening The Hunt For Corruption, Finds It Under Every Rock](#)

New York Times:

[WikiLeaks Releases Trove Of Alleged CIA Hacking Documents](#)
[Trump Aides Address His Wiretap Claims: "That's Above My Pay Grade"](#)
[GOP Health Bill Faces Revolt From Conservative Forces](#)
[Before Elections, Dutch Fear Russian Meddling, But Also US Cash](#)
[North Korea Tensions Pose Early, And Perilous, Test For Trump](#)
[Since Trump, Quiet Upstate Road Becomes A Busy Exit From US](#)
[Iraqi Forces Enter Western Mosul, In Fierce Battle Against ISIS](#)

Washington Post:

[WikiLeaks Posts Files It Says Reveal CIA Hacking Tools](#)
[GOP Spars Over Its Obamacare Replacement](#)
[China Warns US, South Korea Of Antimissile System "Consequences"](#)
[Draft Proposes Security Cuts To Fund Border Wall](#)
[Spies In Your Pocket And Your Living Room](#)

Financial Times:

[Trump Greeted Tourists At White House](#)
[European Businesses Attack China High-Tech Push](#)
[China Rebukes US For Anti-Missile Shield In S Korea](#)
[WikiLeaks Claims To Reveal CIA Cyber Espionage](#)

Washington Times:

[Conservatives, Centrists Bash Republican Replacement For Obamacare](#)
[Trump's First Victory In Deportation Feud Is Iraq](#)
[Deputy AG Nominee Rosenstein: No Need For Recusal In Russian Probe](#)
[Liberals Threaten Democrats Over Support For Gorsuch](#)
[Sweden Resumes Draft To Prepare For Potential Conflict With Russia](#)
[Dissident Hopes Trump Will End Putin's Power](#)

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Healthcare Reform Plan; CIA-WikiLeaks Breach; Trump-Obama Wiretap Claim; Trump-Guantanamo Bay; Mississippi Train Collision; Severe Weather; Wildfires; Daycare Worker Abuse; California Earthquake Warning; California Highway Chase; Paris-Poachers Rhino Attack; Health-Arthritis; Women's College Basketball.

CBS: CIA-WikiLeaks Breach; Wildfires; Healthcare Reform Plan; Trump-Planned Parenthood; Trump-Obama Wiretap Claim; Trump-Guantanamo Bay; South Korea Missile Defense Deployment; Identity Theft; Mississippi Train Collision; Monticello Restoration.

NBC: Mississippi Train Collision; Healthcare Reform Plan; CIA-WikiLeaks Breach; Jewish Community Bomb Threats; Trump-Obama Wiretap Claim; Wildfires, Tornadoes; Health-Poor Diet; White House Tour First Day; Paris-Poachers Rhino Attack; YMCA Bans Political TV; Inter-Racial Friendship.

Network TV At A Glance:

Healthcare Reform Plan – 8 minutes, 45 seconds
CIA-WikiLeaks Breach – 7 minutes, 50 seconds
Trump-Obama Wiretap Claim – 7 minutes, 10 seconds
Wildfires – 5 minutes, 20 seconds
Mississippi Train Collision – 3 minutes, 35 seconds
Trump-Guantanamo Bay – 1 minute, 45 seconds
Paris-Poachers Rhino Attack – 35 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: Healthcare Reform Plan; New Immigration Order-Legal Challenge; CIA-WikiLeaks Breach; Mississippi Train Collision; Wall Street News.

CBS: Healthcare Reform Plan; Trump-Obama Wiretap Claim; Uber Driver-Passenger Assault; Mississippi Train Collision; Wildfires; Wall Street News.

FOX: New Immigration Order; Healthcare Reform Plan; Mississippi Train Collision.

NPR: Healthcare Reform Plan; Trump-Russia Connection Investigation; Trump-Obama Wiretap Claim; Mississippi Train Collision; Wall Street News.

Last Laughs:

LATE NIGHT POLITICAL HUMOR.

Jimmy Kimmel: "Meanwhile, as our standing in the world drops, former President Obama couldn't care less. He's living the life of a third-grade teacher on the first day of summer break."

Jimmy Kimmel: "House Republicans have unveiled their much-anticipated new health care plan. This is the one that's supposed to replace Obamacare. They're calling it the 'American Health Care Act.' ... The new plan stresses personal responsibility. Which for too long Americans have relied on other people, like doctors and nurses, for their healthcare."

Stephen Colbert: "Well, it's finally here. After six years of trying, last night the Republicans finally unveiled their healthcare plan. Then, out of force of habit, they voted to repeal it."

Stephen Colbert: "Oh, there's one other thing they're keeping from Obamacare: Nobody likes it. Conservatives are calling it 'Obamacare lite.' 'Great taste, less coverage.'"

Stephen Colbert: "Meanwhile, Democrats are unhappy because experts estimate this will cover 20 million fewer Americans than Obamacare. Twenty million fewer than Obama. That sounds like Trump's inauguration."

Stephen Colbert: "One of the other differences is that Trumpcare replaces federal insurance subsidies with tax credits. So everything's going to be fine, but you're going to have your colonoscopy at H&R Block."

Stephen Colbert: "And then there's the weird fact that in a 66-page document, ...seven of those pages are about denying Medicaid to lottery winners. Over 10 percent of it is just about denying Medicaid to lottery winners, which is shocking. If anything, Trump should empathize with people who were handed a bunch of money they didn't earn."

Stephen Colbert: "The other big story today is that Trump's BFFs over at WikiLeaks took a WikiDump on the CIA. They released 8,000 pages of documents detailing the agency's cyber-spying powers, proving the CIA is capable of anything, except keeping a secret."

Stephen Colbert: "The CIA apparently has a program code named 'Weeping Angel,' which uses Samsung smart televisions as covert listening devices. ... Oh, my God. If this is true – I have all Samsung TVs in my house – that means the CIA has hundreds of hours of me looking for the remote. 'Where is it? Where is it?'"

James Corden: "That's right, [Rep. Jason] Chaffetz says poor people need to choose between health care or a phone. And just like a Samsung Galaxy 7, that comment blew up in his face. ... Is he saying health insurance costs the same as a phone? Hey Jason, a phone isn't supposed to literally cost you an arm and a leg."

James Corden: "Donald Trump's arch-enemy isn't Obama. It's the wind."

James Corden: "Here's the most incredible thing about Trump showing up during this tour. He was standing right in front of a painting of Hillary Clinton from when she was First Lady. I'm starting to believe Trump when he says he's being spied on."

Trevor Noah: "Last week, Ben Carson was confirmed as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, or as President Trump calls him, 'the Secretary of Blacks.'"

Trevor Noah: "Look, I love Ben Carson. But calling slaves immigrants is like saying, 'It's not kidnapping. That person just got a free vacation in a basement!'"

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Sender:	Bulletin Intelligence <HHS@BulletinIntelligence.com>
Recipient:	<HHS@bulletinintelligence.com>
Sent Date:	2017/03/08 07:35:44
Delivered Date:	2017/03/08 07:38:09

From:	Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
CC:	<cc@pipelinedeals.com>
Subject:	Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health
Date:	2017/04/15 13:41:36
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Valerie,

Thank you for your responses and I will forward the revised blog by the time you've requested.

Have a wonder-filled holiday weekend!

Your HOPE Sister,
Gessie

On Fri, Apr 14, 2017 at 5:38 PM Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I like your new approach idea as it removes any concerns we would have with providing medical recommendations.

Thanks for your specific questions. Here are my answers to each:

1. While research may suggest a link between estrogen and fibroids, it is scientifically unclear if estrogen is a causal factor. So we would prefer that you not state it as fact. You can indicate that as a result of this research you took steps to reduce your levels and discuss those.

2. Yes, you can keep in the opening quote if you remove the reference.

3 and 4. We are not only prohibited from promoting products, services and providers, but we also cannot give the appearance of an endorsement. That is why we cannot include your MP3 file even it is free. Yes, we can definitely link to your website in your author byline and bio!

I hope this answers your questions. In terms of a date for returning a revised version, is Tues, April 18 by 4 EST possible? I leave for work travel the next day and would like to get this put in to clearance on Tuesday before I go if possible.

Best and safe travels home,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson
Sent: Thursday, April 13, 2017 7:21 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Yes. Prague is a beautiful city...one of my favorites!

Thank you for forwarding the revised article. Given the changes, I'd like to take a different approach to the article as you've advised--adding in what helped me personally. I will use the approach taken in the current "Becoming a PCOS Diva" article--meaning, speaking about it from a personal perspective verses a medical recommendation. A few questions:

1. • If we remove the reference to the doctors, can I still include the content around the fact that research consistently links the growth of fibroids to estrogen and from there speak to how I reduced my estrogen levels by removing the toxins out of my lifestyles through stress management, diet and exercises?

2. • I see that you removed the first two sentences of my opening quote. Can we keep it in if I simply remove the reference to the book and just use it as an opening quote?
3. • I see that you've deleted the free MP3 that I linked to the article. This is a free teleseminar that helps women learn more about the lifestyle changes they can make to help manage their fibroids. Is there a way to include this info in the article using different wording?
4. • I see that the Becoming a PCOS Diva article had two links to her website. The first was in her byline and the other in her author bio. Will this be something I can also do?

Thank you and by when do you need the revised document?

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Thu, Apr 13, 2017 at 5:57 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I love Prague based on the week I spent there years ago! Hope you are getting good weather as it's a very walkable city.

I apologize for not getting back to you sooner with our edits. The attached has lots of edits but please don't be concerned. The two main things I had to remove were references to your book and the medical doctor who helped you as we are not allowed to promote products or medical professionals by name. In addition I removed the section on the 3 things every woman should know because we will link to our fact sheet on Fibroids:

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/uterine-fibroids>

We are excited to hear more of your personal story. You can add how diet and exercise helped you, etc., but we cannot include specific dietary recommendations.

Please feel free to email me back with any questions or concerns.

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson

Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 8:06 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)

Subject: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Hi Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. I'm writing to check back in with you on the status of the article. Your last email indicated that you were working on the edits and would be forwarding the final for my review.

The London Women's Health event well and I'm now in Prague on vacation for the week but will be checking email to ensure that I respond to you in a timely manner.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

Co-Founder, Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination Program

Women's Health Speaker, Bestselling Author & Fibroids & Fertility Coach

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[Download Our Free Hope Beyond Fibroids Elimination TeleSeminar MP3](#)

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 9:44 PM, Gessie Thompson
<info@gessiethompson.com>wrote:

Hi Valerie,

Excellent. Thank you and I look forward to seeing them!

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie

On Tue, Apr 4, 2017 at 4:34 PM Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Thanks Gessie,

I received your blog and we are putting it through review now. I'll share with you our edits once complete.

Enjoy your time in London!

Valerie Borden

From: admin@upliftgroup.com [mailto:admin@upliftgroup.com] **On Behalf Of** Gessie Thompson
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 5:31 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Happy Friday Valerie,

I hope this finds you well. Attached is the promised draft of my piece in support of "National Fibroids Awareness" and "National Infertility Awareness" weeks (observed April 22 to 29th).

I have also linked below two photo options for your use:

- • Head Shot: <https://app.box.com/s/z4loqn4z1viq4y44zsddb3ioefuvcef>
- • Family Photo:
<https://app.box.com/s/ibkoamn98s2lgs5ajwsc2oxn5az1bw49>

Thank you and I look forward to hearing your thoughts/receiving your feedback.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

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On Thu, Mar 16, 2017 at 2:43 PM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov> wrote:

Hi Gessie,

I'm so pleased that you are willing to write a piece for our blog and can meet our April timetable. I look forward to receiving your draft the first week in April.

Thanks again!

Valerie Borden

From: Gessie Thompson [mailto:info@gessiethompson.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:14 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH); Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)
Subject: Re: Blog submission for the Office on Women's Health

Dear Valerie,

It's a pleasure to e-meet you and thank you for your email. It would be my honor to share my story through your blog in support of "National Infertility Awareness Week" and "National Fibroids Awareness Week"--which both occur April 23 to 29th.

I will review the guidelines you've provided and submit the piece by the first week of April. I travel on April 6th to speak at a women's health conference in the London area on April 8th so it will ideally be before then.

I look forward to working with you.

Your HOPE Sister,

Gessie J. Thompson

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On Wed, Mar 15, 2017 at 9:24 AM, Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>wrote:

Dear Gessie,

I work in the HHS Office on Women's Health and manage our blog. Jenn Bishop Crawford and Jill Wasserman shared with me your interest in providing a blog for our site for April for National Infertility Month, April 23-29. Are you able to provide me with a 500-700 word draft by early April? I need about 2 weeks for editorial review and clearance on this end. Attached are our blog guidelines that provide specific guidance. Also, feel free to view our past blog posts at: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog>

Please contact me with any questions. We are very excited to share your story with our blog followers!

Best,

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor, Public and Private Partnerships

Division of Strategic Communications

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov

Main: [202-690-7650](tel:202-690-7650) | Direct: [202-205-0270](tel:202-205-0270)

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: [1-800-994-9662](tel:1-800-994-9662) | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

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Your HOPE Sister,
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Sender:	Gessie Thompson <info@gessiethompson.com>
Recipient:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>; <cc@pipelinedeals.com>
Sent Date:	2017/04/15 13:40:41
Delivered Date:	2017/04/15 13:41:36

From:	Lemar, Naweed (OS/ASPA) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BDD222A2AC644600A7167233AF2271F8-LEMAR, NAWEE>
To:	OS - Nightly Report </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=977e1a0fc9394019a2e2b7cbf234bd50-NightlyRepo>
Subject:	Nightly Report for Wednesday, March 15, 2017
Date:	2017/03/14 17:02:42
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

HHS PRESS OFFICE NIGHTLY REPORT

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

Press Releases

(FDA) “Colorado unapproved drug and dietary supplement makers ordered to cease operations for federal violations”

<https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm546620.htm>

(NIH) “Common tests for preterm birth not useful for routine screening of first-time pregnancies”

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/common-tests-preterm-birth-not-useful-routine-screening-first-time-pregnancies>

(NIH) “NIH-funded scientists deploy CRISPR to preserve photoreceptors in mice”

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-funded-scientists-deploy-crispr-preserve-photoreceptors-mice>

(OS) “American Health Care Act Will Restore, Protect, and Preserve the Doctor-Patient Relationship”

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2017/03/14/american-health-care-act-will-restore-protect-and-preserve-doctor-patient-relationship.html>

(OS) “Secretary Price Statement on CBO Report”

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2017/03/14/secretary-price-statement-cbo-report.html>

Major Media Contacts

AHRQ

Marie Benz of MedicalResearch.com contacted us for written responses to questions on an AHRQ statistical brief about medical expenditures for people with multiple chronic conditions. We worked with Anita Soni, author of the statistical brief, to provide her with written responses.

Cathy Sivak of CMA Today (American Association for Medical Assistants) contacted us to speak about care coordination and medical assistants. We arranged for her to speak with Ric Ricciardi, AHRQ's senior nursing advisor.

Kathleen Ogle of Clinical Oncology News requested information on the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force's upcoming draft recommendation statement on Screening for Prostate Cancer. Her request is pending.

CDC

Women's Health Magazine interviewed epidemiologist Christina Nelson, NCEZID/DVBD, about Lyme disease and prevention of tick-borne diseases on Monday.

CMS

Christine Sexton, a bureau chief for Politico Florida, requested final Marketplace enrollment for Florida, Jacksonville and nationwide. CMS Atlanta press officer shared the latest enrollment snapshot released in February.

Kirk Brown, a reporter with the USA Today network, continues to seek information regarding fines assessed to Holly Lane Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center in Nampa, Idaho. A CMS Region IV and Region X collaborated on the inquiry and informed Mr. Brown that because the case remains active we are not in a position at this time to comment or share information. Andy Miller, editor of Georgia Health News, sought additional information regarding the high risk pool letter and 1332 waiver. Miller's question focused on whether another state submitted a waiver and if states apply for federal pass-through funds to support a high-risk pool. CMS Atlanta press officer referred to the related internal Q&A to respond to Miller's questions and inquiry. The news story is found at <http://www.georgiahealthnews.com/2017/03/feds-aca-provision-premiums/>

Dan Clark, with The Buffalo News, inquired about whether or not taxi rides to the doctor are paid for through Medicaid for all recipients, or just certain recipients. Clark also asked if rides are paid for upfront, or are patients reimbursed. CMS NY Region public affairs officer provided the reporter with a link on CMS's website that provides a fact sheet on the subject and referred him to the respective state for specific details.

FDA

Natalie Grover, Reuters; Cristin Flanagan, Bloomberg; Sue Sutter, The Pink Sheet; Connor Hale, FDA News; Kristina Fiore, MedPage Today; Sarah Chacko, The Hill; Laura Helbling, RPM Report; Andrew Siddons, CQ Roll Call; Tom Dreisbach, NPR (IN); covering via webcast the FDA advisory committee meeting on the opioid Opana ER and other oxymorphone products. (SP)

Laurie McGinley, Washington Post; Peter Aldhous, PhD, Science reporter with BuzzFeed News; requested FDA comment on embargoed NEJM studies and editorial (lifts at 5 p.m. Wed.) on stem cell clinics and FDA oversight. (AF)

Kelly Grant, health reporter with The Globe and Mail (Canada's national newspaper), requested information on the FDA's approval of Strensiq (from 2015). Referred reporter to the labeling and

approval summary and to contact the company for information on grants/tax credits received. (AF)

Charles Piller, STAT News, asking about FDA guidance/regulations for what safety information to include in product labeling, both preapproval and postmarketing; in progress. (SP)

Matthew Simon, Wired, with questions about regulation of robotic medical devices. In progress. (SC)

Jennifer Cook, Prevention Magazine, with questions on the investigation into homeopathic teething products. In progress. (LM)

Lisa Zobel, CBS This Morning, FDA's enforcement of milk on food labels. In progress. (DK)

Carly Ledbetter, Huffington Post, asked about L-cysteine on food labels. Sent links to additive page and amino acid additive regulation. (DK)

Linda Johnson, Associated Press, asked for confirmation that we approved Kisqali for the treatment of breast cancer. We did, link to label sent. (AS)

Keren Schiffman, National Geographic Explorer, requesting FDA interview on the global expansion of prescription opioids; declined interview. (SP)

ONC

Mary Pratt, Medical Economics, asked ONC for a spokesperson who could talk about the importance of using EHRs to achieve the goals of MACRA. She was referred to CMS.

Rachel Arndt, Modern Healthcare; Greg Slabodkin, HealthData Management; Neil Versel, asked ONC for a comment on the letter sent to Sec. Price by HealthIT Now. They were all referred to ASPA to respond.

Jeff Byers, Healthcare Dive, recently posted a story about the state of interoperability. ONC reached out to provide additional information about the topic for possible future stories.

David Pittman, Politico, continues to ask ONC if the Secretary has met with ONC staff. He continues to be told "nope, not yet."

SAMHSA

Carla Daniels with AP is seeking data on substance use levels and treatment levels among adolescents. We are researching.

Regional Outlets and Other Interviews and Background

ACF

Sheila Burke of the Associated Press (Tenn.) was provided a statement that ACF does not comment on pending litigation following a query about a Tennessee lawsuit challenging constitutionality of their refugee resettlement program.

David Sutta of WFOR (Fla.) was provided background information about ORR's unaccompanied children program.

Meghan Hoyer of the Associated Press (N.Y.) was provided background information about the trends in foster care and adoption from FY 2006 to FY 2015.

CMS

Myrna Brown, producer for CMG-Atlanta WSBTV (ABC) is seeking to interview Region IV CMS representative, about the funding provided for Virtual Dementia Tours in 169 certified nursing homes. CMS Atlanta Region has an opportunity to share how this important training improves provisions of care for persons with dementia and offers CMS a prime opportunity to promote efforts to improve the care of patients with dementia across the continuum.. WBS will film the VDT at Pruitt Health in Marietta, GA with news anchor Fred Blankenship; the news story will run on "People 2 People" on Saturday, March 18th.

Mike Dennison, KTVH-TV & KXLH-TV Helena MT (and other co-owned stations), called seeking the amount of Advance Premium Tax Credits [APTC] provided to Montanans enrolled through Healthcare.gov in 2016. He was told this information was not available at this time, but referred to locations on the hhs.gov site for previous data about average premiums and tax credits in MT.

Adriana Loya, KWCH-TV (CBS) Wichita, KS, had questions about ACA enrollment. She was provided with the most recent (2/3/17) plan selection data for Kansas, and the estimated percentage of applicants who qualified for Cost Sharing Reductions (i.e., those <250% FPL), as released by HHS in late October. Answers regarding how many would be affected by proposed legislation, and a breakdown of applicants by income levels were declined.

Janine Weisman, a reporter for New England Psychologist, inquired about a request by Maine on Jan. 25 to get a 1115 demonstration waivers to implement changes to its Medicaid program. The Boston Regional Office coordinated the Office of Communications and the Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services to craft a response.

Jon Saltzman, of The Boston Globe, inquired if "laparoscopic assisted radical prostatectomy" and "transurethral resection of the prostate (TURP)" were defined by CMS as "endoscopic operations" or "endoscopic procedures." The Boston Regional Office provided the reporter with an explanation from the Division of Financial Management and Fee-For-Service Operations, along with online links to definitions.

Amy Phillips, of the WWLP 22News Investigative Team, inquired about the most updated information on drugs being prescribed through Medicare in Massachusetts, similar to a state-by-state breakdown by ProPublica, which used CMS data. CMS Boston Regional Office provided

links to the most current data released and informed the reporter that the data is released annually.

Sarah Holden, reporter for KBTX-TV (Channel 3/CBS) in Bryan-College Station, TX, asked for an overview of the Nursing Home Compare website and how families can use it to research nursing homes for loved ones. CMS Dallas regional press officer provided a response.

A column by San Francisco regional administrator Greg Dill about Nursing Home Compare was published by 51 newspapers, magazines, and online news sites in Region IX. Arizona: Arizona Daily Star (Tucson); Green Valley News; Ahwatukee Foothills News; Sierra Vista Herald; Fountain Hills Times; TucsonHappenings.com; PaysonRoundup.com; Paradise Valley Independent; Willcox Range News; KHIL 103.5 FM/1250 AM; X Wave 104.9 FM; San Pedro Valley News-Sun; Scottsdale Independent. California: Monterey Herald; Huntington Beach News; Red Bluff Daily News; Santa Clarita Magazine; Ventura Breeze; Valley Sentinel (Danville); Fairfield Republic; El Sol de Valle de San Fernando; Oakdale Leader; Signal Hill Tribune; ThePineTree.net; SCVNews.com; LakesideNews.net; Aptos Times; Philippine News; DailyVine.net; Capitola Soquel Times; Fallbrook Village News; TheCoastalPress.com; Scotts Valley Times; Kern Valley Sun; CaliforniaDolphin.com; Anza Valley News; Escalon Times; Riverbank News; Ramona Journal; Mountain Democrat; Patch.com websites in Walnut Creek, Capitola, Murrieta, Pinole, Moorpark, and San Bernardino. Hawaii: Hawaii Herald. Nevada: Senior Spectrum (Reno); Elko Daily News; Nevada Appeal; St. George Spectrum (UT).

FDA

David Lim, Inside Health Policy, questions about FDA notice to exempt certain medical devices from 510(k) premarket notification requirements and process for selecting the devices. In progress (JCD)

Ryan Beitler, Addiction Now, received link to May 2016 FDA news release on Probuphine, the first FDA-approved implant for treatment of opioid dependence. (MF)

Alex Green, writer working on an academic article, requested an interview with an FDA official on gene editing. Requested additional information to find out if he is writing a scientific article for submission, or a news article. (AF)

Michael Rausch, The Bourne (Massachusetts) Enterprise, with questions on FDA's tobacco retailer inspection program. (MF)

Deborah Whippen, IASLC Lung Cancer News, with questions on the Mutual Recognition Agreement. In progress. (LM)

Rich Laden, Colorado Springs Gazette, was provided information on the consent decree entered with dietary supplement maker, EonNutra. (LM)

Joe Carlson, Minneapolis Star Tribune, with question about timing of recall on Synchronmed device. In progress. (SC)

Jane Akre, Mesh Medical News, asked for status of Solyx 522 study on mesh. Sent link to 522 page and told to submit FOIA request for study updates. (DK)

Jeff Kinney, FDANews, with questions about whether there was reference to patient engagement in MDUFA agreement. Sent link to agreement directing him to where it was. (DK)

Jory Heckman, Federal News Radio, requested FDA's CIO participation in a panel interview on cloud computing. In progress. (SC)

Ranjini Prithviraj, DIA Podcast, seeking interview on the Mutual Recognition Agreement. In progress. (LM)

Jeff Kinney, FDANews, with questions about the potential new Office of Patient Affairs. Response provided. (LSD)

SAMHSA

Holly Meyer with the Tennessean interviewed Dr. Kimberly Johnson today about the role churches and other religious institutions can play in addressing the opioid problem. We are researching.

Alison Insinger with the trade publication AT Forum will interview this Dr. Kimberly Johnson this Friday about SAMHSA efforts to identify area of the nation that could most benefit from an increase in the no. of opioid treatment programs.

Alison Insinger with writing for another trade publication, ADAW is seeking information on a reported effort between DEA and SAMHSA to allow mobile opioid treatment programs. We are researching.

Cesar Gamboa with Addiction Now requested comment on the AHCA and Medicaid. He was referred to the dept.

Keri Lyderson from In These Times Magazine is seeking data regarding heroin use among minority populations. We are researching.

V/R,

Naweed Lemar

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Direct: 202-690-6889

(b)(6)

Email: naweed.lemar@hhs.gov

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Subject:	[MARKETING EMAIL]OA Action Alliance - Biweekly Digest, Volume 3; Issue 11
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The Osteoarthritis Action Alliance Biweekly Digest, Volume 3, Issue 11

In this issue

- Osteoarthritis Action Alliance News
- Events (Conferences, webinars, trainings)
- Opportunities (Jobs, Internships, Fellowships, Funding)
- Osteoarthritis in the News
- Policy, Resources & Reports

Featured this week:

CDC MMWR: Prevalence of Arthritis and Arthritis-Attributable Activity Limitation by Urban-Rural County Classification

CDC researchers analyzed data from the 2015 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) to estimate the prevalence of arthritis by urban-rural categories. Key findings include:

- In rural areas, arthritis affects nearly 1 in 3 adults.
- 50% of rural residents with arthritis report an arthritis attributable activity limitation.
- Walking is recommended to ease pain and improve quality of life.

You can read the full report on the [CDC MMWR website](#).

Due to the high prevalence of arthritis in the rural adult population, public health interventions including physical activity and self-management education programs, like [Walk With Ease](#), should be targeted to rural adult residents with arthritis.

The Alliance addresses this need for evidence-based interventions through our mini-grant program. In our latest mini-grant round, we awarded [13 community organizations](#) (6 in rural communities) to expand dissemination and delivery of Walk With Ease (WWE), a community-based physical activity program from the Arthritis Foundation. We will be opening up another round of our mini-grant RFA in late summer to fund additional community organizations to implement WWE.

Looking for implementation resources for evidence-based programs like Walk with Ease? Check out our [resource library for community partners](#)!

- **New!** We recently developed a Class Zero Video to introduce potential participants to Walk With Ease. Watch now on our [YouTube channel](#)!

Social Media Messages

Twitter

- One-third of adults living in rural areas have #arthritis. Walking can help ease pain. <http://bitly.com/2qdMsmF>
- Over half of adults w/ arthritis in rural areas are limited by it. Exercise helps restore



Osteoarthritis Action Alliance News

- Come and [Walk With A Doc](#) at UNC Wellness Center- Meadowmont, 100 Sprunt Street, Chapel Hill. Rain or shine. **Saturday, June 17, 10AM** with Dr. Amanda Nelson from the Thurston Arthritis Research Center in Chapel Hill, NC!
- We've updated our [Youtube channel](#)! Check us out, and subscribe!
- We have a [LinkedIn page](#)! Follow us to recieve updates about the Alliance's activities.

Events

Workshops, Webinars, and Twitter Chats

- [OAAA Lunch & Learn Webinar: Lower Limb Injury Prevention, June 21, 12pm ET.](#)
- **NEW!** [NIH Federal Pain Research Strategy Forum, June 1, 2017, 12:45pm- 3:30pm ET. Watch videocast here.](#)
- [Tracking the Walking Path: Tools and Programs for Measuring Walking and Walkability](#)

(America Walks). June 14, 2017, 2pm ET.

Conferences

Save the Date/Register

- • National Athletic Trainers' Association Annual Meeting. June 26-29, 2017, Houston TX.
- • 2017 National Walking Summit St. Paul, MN, September 13-15, 2017
- • National Recreation and Parks Association Annual Conference. September 26-28, 2017, New Orleans, LA
- • International Council on Active Aging Conference, Orlando, FL, October 12-14, 2017
Register early by June 5!
- • Obesity Week, October 31- Nov 2, 2017, Washington, DC
- • American Public Health Association, November 4-8, 2017, Atlanta, GA
- • American College of Rheumatology, November 3-8, 2017, San Diego, CA
- • Movement is Life Caucus, November 9-10, 2017, Washington, D.C.

Opportunities

- • **NEW!** The NIH's Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee has just released its Federal Pain Research Strategy Draft Research Priorities. Comments can be submitted through June 6 to FPRS_PublicComments@mail.nih.gov

Abstract Deadlines

- • **DEADLINE APPROACHING!** ACR/ARHP Annual Meeting call for abstracts. Meeting in San Diego, CA, Nov 3-8, 2017. Abstract deadline June 19.
- • Movement is Life Caucus, November 9-10, 2017, Washington, D.C.; Abstract deadline: July 17

Funding

- • Self-Management Interventions and Technologies to Sustain Health and Optimize Functional Capabilities (R01) - clinical research on self-management interventions and technologies that improve health and quality of life in persons needing assistance to optimize and maintain existing functional capabilities, prevent/delay disabilities and navigate their environment. Standard dates apply.
- • **DEADLINE APPROACHING!** Testing Interventions for Health-Enhancing Physical Activity (R01) - research on multi-level intervention programs of 1 to 2 years in length that are designed to increase physical activity. Maximum project period of 5 years. Applications due June 5, 2017.

HHS-18-0191-D-001160

The latest in media, policy, practice on osteoarthritis

Osteoarthritis in the News

- [PodMed: A Medical News Roundup from Johns Hopkins - Featuring: Chondroitin Sulfate for Knee Osteoarthritis](#)
- [Osteoarthritis patients urged to exercise](#)
- [Rats with Bad Knees Teach Researchers about Potential Treatment for Osteoarthritis](#)
- [Knee osteoarthritis treatment 'falling short' of best practice, health commission says](#)
- [No Benefits From Steroid Application On Knee Osteoarthritis; May Increase Cartilage Loss](#)
- [Myoscience's 'cold therapy' system bags FDA OK for knee pain](#)
- [Opioid use before knee replacement surgery results in worse pain outcomes for patients](#)
- [A steroid shot for your knee pain? Just skip it.](#)
- [Brain Stimulation Helps Kick Chronic Knee Pain](#)
- [Fiber-rich diet linked to lowered risk of painful knee osteoarthritis](#)
- [Opioid painkillers before knee surgery linked to increased pain: Study](#)
- [Eating more fiber may lower risk of osteoarthritis](#)
- [A Diet Rich In Fiber May Reduce The Risk Of Developing Osteoarthritis](#)
- [Obesity a major factor in onset of osteoarthritis: AFI study](#)
- [Osteoarthritis soars, obesity is to blame](#)
- [Sham Knee Surgery as Good as the Real Thing?](#)
- [Do YOU suffer from 'smartphone thumb'? Doctors warn issue is becoming a major problem across America](#)
- [Increased Fiber: A Key to Avoiding OA?](#)
- [16 best exercises to overcome arthritic knee problems](#)

Policy

- **NEW!** [Straight Talk for Seniors®: 10 Ways the Administration's Budget Would Impact](#)

Senior Programs (National Council on Aging)

- **NEW!** High-Risk Pools Under the AHCA - How Much Could Coverage Cost Enrollees and the Federal Government? (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation)

Resources & Reports

- Walkable Communities are Healthy, Wealthy & Wise A Fact Sheet from the Transit-Walkability Collaborative

We to use this newsletter to share the latest Osteoarthritis Action Alliance news, and OA-related resources, publications, achievements, events, opportunities from or for our member organizations. Have something you would like to share with us? Please email us at oaaction@unc.edu and we will promote it on our Twitter and Facebook sites and in our upcoming Bi-Weekly digest.

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Share

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Subject:	Nightly Report for Monday, July 3, 2017
Date:	2017/06/30 17:03:21
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

HHS PRESS OFFICE NIGHTLY REPORT

Monday, July 3, 2017

Press Releases

(FDA) “Federal judge orders New York smoked fish company to stop sales due to food safety violations”

<https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm565463.htm>

(OS) “HHS awards \$15 Million to help families affected by lead exposure in Flint, MI”

<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2017/06/30/hhs-awards-15-million-help-families-affected-lead-exposure-flint-mi.html>

Major Media Contacts

AHRQ

Christina Jewett of Kaiser Health News requested clarification of data definitions from AHRQ's Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project. We provided the definitions.

Traci Hacker of OPEN MINDS requested a review of their article on nutrition supplements for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder based on the AHRQ Comparative Effectiveness Report. We reviewed the article and provided comments.

Joyce Frieden of MedPage Today contacted us for more information about AHRQ's Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project databases. We are working with HCUP staff to address.

CDC

Janet McAllister with CDC's Division of Vector-borne Diseases spoke to the Associated Press about wet spring producing lots of mosquitoes and what that might mean.

CMS

Gregory Twachtman, reporting for Frontline Medical News, asked for clarifications on revisions to the CMS PERM and MEQC Final Rule, issued by CMS after market close June 29. A CMS press officer shared program clarifications and addressed technical changes via the fact sheet and approved background materials.

Eric Topor, a senior legal editor at Bloomberg BNA, asked for a CMS or HHS comment on the recent 6th Circuit Court's decision (Parrino v. HHS) upholding the exclusion of Leo Parrino from Medicare programs. CMS offered no comment for his news story, scheduled for an upcoming publication date.

Blake Ellis (CNN) asked if CMS followed up with a question about the ratio of nurses to patients in Nursing Homes and asked if CMS has a national number for the number of nurses to patients. A press officer responded that CMS does not have a ratio that counts people, but rather data on the number of hours per resident.

FDA

Nicole Galovski, producer with Fictionless (documentary filmmaker), reached out to request information on filming at the upcoming July 12 Oncologic Drugs Advisory Committee meeting where the agency will be discussing a CAR-T application. The press office will coordinate logistics with the producer/crew as the meeting approaches. (AF/AS)

Marshall Allen, ProPublica, requesting fact checks for upcoming health care cost article. In progress. (LSD)

Claudia Torrens, AP, writing about five people in NY that became lead poisoned from contaminated clay pottery used for preparing and serving food. Referred to CDC for info on other cities that have seen this type of problem. (TE)

Toni Clarke, Reuters, seeking copy of 483 for Meridian. Referred to FOIA for inspectional correspondence, should it exist. (LM)

Laurie McGinley, Washington Post, with question about the July 12 Oncologic Drugs Advisory Committee meeting to discuss Novartis' CAR T-Cell application. (AS)

NIH

New York Times' Pam Belluck interviewed Dr. Robert Finkelstein, NINDS, about FoxG1 syndrome.

ONC

David Pittman, Politico, interviewed Genevieve Morris about the July 24 trusted exchange and network to network framework kick-off meeting. The interview is embargoed until 9AM Wednesday, July 5. He was also provided with an embargoed copy of the meeting agenda which will be posted to HealthIT.gov on Wednesday, along with a blog post.

Regional Outlets and Other Interviews and Background

ACF

Mark Viola of the Perry News Herald (Fla.) was provided information about a local Head Start program.

Christin Coyne of the Weatherford Democrat (Texas) was provided information about a local Head Start program.

Gabriella Canales of the Victoria Advocate (Texas) was provided information about a grantee change for a local Head Start program.

Independent journalist Roxana Popescu (Calif). asked about refugee resettlement in San Diego and was referred to the State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration for additional information.

CMS

Wall Street Journal reporters Christopher Weaver and Dan Frosch asked about the status of CMS 2567 inspection reports for Rosebud, an Indian Health Service facility, and whether the reports were public and if an immediate jeopardy was part of the report findings. Answered.

Ken Alltucker, Arizona Republic, Phoenix, asked for an early peek at the new Open Payments data. The CMS San Francisco press officer replied that wasn't possible but that the data will be posted by close of business Friday.

Angela Gonzales, Phoenix Business Journal, asked if Bright Health, a Minnesota-based insurer, has been approved to sell Medicare Advantage plans in Arizona. The San Francisco press officer replied that no MA data will be released until Plan Finder goes live in the fall with updated information for open enrollment season.

FDA

Beth Wang, Inside Health Policy, asking what spurred the recent FR Notice about the Medical Imaging Advisory Committee. In progress. (LSD)

Jerry Zremski, Buffalo News, with questions about the IND process. Provided standard cleared language and referred to website. (LSD)

Deborah Whippen, Lung Cancer News, fact-checking story on Dr. Gottlieb's welcome address to FDA staff. (AS/MF)

James Hamilton, Al Jazeera English, with questions regarding the upcoming public workshop on evaluating the data around opioids with abuse-deterrent properties. (MF)

Hannah Kuchler, Financial Times, was provided information on drug approval process and research involving controlled substances for story on LSD. Also referred to NIDA and DEA. (LM)

HRSA

CBS affiliate TV5 reporter Samaia Hernandez called for information on today's award of \$15 million to help families affected by lead exposure in Flint, and was connected with the grant recipient.

NIH

American Massage Therapy Association's Massage Therapy Journal's Renee Zagozdon interviewed Dr. Dave Thomas, NIDA, about Opioids and managing pain.

Nature Reviews Endocrinology's and BioWorld and Medical Device Daily's Anette Breindl interviewed Dr. Thomas A. Wynn, NIAID, about NAFLD study.

The Cancer Letter's Matt Ong interviewed Dr. Douglas R. Lowy, NCI Acting Director, about Biden Cancer Initiative.

Men's Health's Michael Easter interviewed Dr. Amy Berrington, NCI, about CT scans & cancer risk.

Dallas Morning News's David Lieber contacted , NIH, about Congressional letter on research protocol.

Psychiatric News' JoAnn Blake interviewed Dr. Carlos Zarate and Dr. Sarah H. Lisanby, NIMH, about electroconvulsive therapy (ECT).

Marie Claire Brazil's Maria Clara Povia interviewed Dr. Carol Haggans and Dr. Paul Thomas, NIH, about Dietary Supplements.

V/R,

Naweed Lemar

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

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Subject:	NBCI Seeks Newly Diagnosed Men and Women Breast Cancer Patients Who Are Members of Our Churches
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www.naltblackchurch.com

**NBCI Seeks Newly
Diagnosed Men and Women
Breast Cancer Patients Who
Are Members of Our
Churches**



Image of two women, one older, one younger and more athletic

1 Peter 5:7

⁴And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away. ⁵Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. ⁶Humble yourselves theref the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: ⁷Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

We would like to inform you of a study for men and women with breast cancer using Ribociclib (Kisqali®) and Letrozole (Femara®), two drugs that are already approved by the FDA (the US Food and Drug Administration). This combination of drugs is available on the market for certain breast cancer patients, but is still considered experimental for others. This study is called **CompLEEment-1** (protocol number **CLEE011A2404**).

Study Purpose: The goal of this study is to better understand the safety and effectiveness of Ribociclib in combination with Letrozole for patients with hormone receptor positive (ER+/PR+)/HER2- advanced or metastatic breast cancer.

Here is the population of individuals we are looking for:

- Men, premenopausal, and postmenopausal women with a certain type of advanced breast cancer, called hormone receptor positive (ER+/PR+)/HER2- breast cancer.
- Patients with advanced or metastatic breast cancer, which typically means that they have had to try different medications or that they were diagnosed late.

Where patients and caregivers can learn more:

To determine whether you are eligible for this study or to find a doctor's office closest to you, please contact: **1-855-413-9165** to speak with a medical information specialist. Discuss this fact sheet with your doctor.

More information is also available online: www.monaleesatrials.com

More information is also available online: www.clinicaltrials.gov **NCT02941926**

About NBCI

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a coalition of 34,000 African American and Latino churches working to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBCI's mission is to provide critical wellness information to all of its members, congregants, churches and the public. The National Black Church Initiative's methodology is utilizing faith and sound health science. Visit our website at www.naltblackchurch.com.

Visit <http://www.naltblackchurch.com/contact-us.html> to VOLUNTEER with The National Black Church Initiative or contact Rev. Evans at [202-744-0184](tel:202-744-0184).

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Subject:	This WEEK: HHS Community Health March 6- 10, 2017
Date:	2017/03/06 13:03:56
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Folks, This week we have a new funding announcement from Dept. of Labor, planning resources for Friday's National Women and HIV/AIDS Awareness Day on March 10 (join the [Thunderclap](#) today!), a prompt to register for the March 22nd webinar on the Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program Model (MDPP) and other resources and information! As always, thank you for the great work you are leading in communities around the country, Heidi

News and Noteworthy

Grant Announcement: U.S. Department of Labor Announces Availability of \$12M in Grants to Help Veterans Overcome Homelessness, Secure Employment.

What: The U.S. Department of Labor announces the availability of approximately \$12 million in funding from the [Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program](#) to provide America's military veterans with job-driven training for in-demand jobs to help them attain good civilian jobs and transition successfully from homelessness to sustainable housing. Homeless veterans may receive occupational, classroom and on-the-job training, as well as job search and placement assistance, including follow-up services.

Who: State and local workforce investment boards, local public agencies and nonprofit organizations, and tribal governments, including faith-based and community organizations are eligible. Funds are awarded on a competitive basis.

Funding Announcement: The solicitation for grant applications will be [available here](#). The closing date for applications is **March 31, 2017**.

More information on the department's unemployment and re-employment programs for veterans can be found at www.dol.gov/vets/.

VETS News Brief: 02/28/2017

National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day- March 10

Friday is the [National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day](#) observance March 10, 2017. Led by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Women's Health, this year's theme is "**The Best Defense is a Good Offense**," promotes HIV prevention.

National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is an annual observance that sheds light on the impact of HIV and AIDS on women and girls. Every year on March 10, and throughout the month of March, national and community organizations come together to show support for women and girls impacted by HIV and AIDS. This year marks the 12th observance of National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

Today, about one in four people living with HIV in the United States is female. Only about half of women living with HIV are getting care, and only four in 10 of them have the virus under control. Women face unique HIV risks and challenges that can prevent them from getting needed care and treatment. Addressing these issues remains critical to achieving an HIV- and AIDS-free generation. To learn more about each step, visit What every woman needs to know about HIV, What every girl needs to know about HIV, or the National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day fact sheet.

Now until March 10
Thunderclap
#BestDefense

Support the **#BestDefense is a Good Offense** campaign by joining the T Tumblr. A one-time message will sent to your account on March 10 at noon on the importance of HIV prevention! Please visit www.womenshealth.gov or contact Adrienne Phenix at Adrienne.Phenix@hhs.gov.

Upcoming

Webinar: Learn more about the Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program Model (MDPP) Expansion

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will be hosting a co-led webinar on Wednesday, March 22nd from 1-2pm EST. The webinar will provide an overview of the Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program Model (MDPP) expansion and the CDC Diabetes Prevention Recognition Program (DPRP), the requirements for pending and full CDC DPRP recognition, CDC recognition in the 2017 Physician Fee Schedule (PFS), and next steps for organizations thinking of offering MDPP.

To Register: Click [HERE](#)

If you are already registered for this event, please refer to your confirmation email to join or click on the registration URL and enter in your email address and password (if applicable).

Resources and Educational Materials

Planning Fire Safety for Older Adults

People over the age of 65 face the greatest risk of dying in a fire, according to the [U.S. Fire Administration](#) (USFA).

Reduce that risk by protecting yourself and your loved-ones with these special

precautions from the USFA:

- Install and maintain smoke alarms on each level of your home and inside and outside sleeping areas. Test them monthly, and replace alkaline batteries at least once a year.
- Develop a fire escape plan around your abilities. If you use a walker or wheelchair, check all exits to be sure that you can go through the doorways. Unless instructed by the fire department, never use an elevator during a fire.
- When using medical oxygen, the amount of oxygen in the air can increase. This means there is a higher risk of both fires and burns because it is easier for a fire to start and spread. Never smoke in a home where someone is using medical oxygen. Also, never use a candle, match, lighter or other open flame. In addition, never use a fireplace, stove or other equipment fueled by gas, kerosene, wood or coal. Keep oil, grease and similar petroleum-based products away from oxygen valves. They can cause a spontaneous explosion.

Learn more about how older adults can stay safe from fire with more [tips, resources and statistics](#) from the USFA.

Planning a Spring Break Vacation or Mission Trip?

March is when travel all over the world for spring break activities- whether for adventure, family holidays or service mission trips. Please share the [CDC's website](#) with the most up-to-date information on travel tips and Zika steps to keep your community safe and healthy. <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel>

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the notices and events listed in these weekly notices and/or have a request for additional information. With great and many thanks,
Heidi

Heidi Christensen, Associate Director for Community Engagement

Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships/IEA/OS

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Ave, Washington D.C. 20201

(202) 358-3595 | www.hhs.gov/partnerships

Connect with us on Twitter! [@PartnersforGood](#)

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Delivered Date:	2017/03/06 13:03:56

From:	Office on Womens Health <owh@service.govdelivery.com>
To:	Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; <owh@palladianpartners.com>; Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; <AHallJordan@hagerssharp.com>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	Courtesy Copy: How Will You Put Your #BestDefense Into Play Today?
Date:	2017/03/10 09:00:53
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

This is a courtesy copy of an email bulletin sent by Palladian Partners.

This bulletin was sent to the following groups of people:

Subscribers of Body (girlshealth.gov), English (girlshealth.gov for Parents and Caregivers), HIV/AIDS (womenshealth.gov), or National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, (32854 recipients)



Main Header

How Will You Put Your #BestDefense Into Play Today?



National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

Today, people all across the United States are joining together to observe [National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day](#) and help shed light on the impact of HIV and AIDS on women and girls. With this year's theme, **"The Best Defense Is a Good Offense,"** the Office on Women's Health wants to empower women and girls to protect their sexual health, engage in healthy relationships, and put their best defense into play.

Here's what you can do today to join us:

- • Learn how [women](#) and [girls](#) can lower their risk of getting HIV.
- • Join the NWGHAAD [Thunderclap](#) before 12:00 p.m. ET. Adding your voice allows us to reach women and girls across the country!
- • Share [encouraging words](#) from our 2017 ambassadors.
- • Read how our ambassadors [fight against the stigma of HIV](#) and [stand with HIV-positive women](#).
- • Learn more about NWGHAAD with our [fact sheet](#).
- • Find [ideas](#) to observe NWGHAAD in your community.
- • Use **#NWGHAAD** and **#BestDefense** on social media to talk about how you are protecting yourself and others from HIV.

For more information, visit the National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day [website](#).

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Did you get this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive Office on Women's Health updates.

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- OWH Helpline: 800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

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Sent Date:	2017/03/10 09:00:07
Delivered Date:	2017/03/10 09:00:53

From:	Christensen, Heidi (HHS/CFBNP) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=B284B9000AA44FF19DB93AA87267556A-CHRISTENSEN>
To:	Christensen, Heidi (HHS/CFBNP) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b284b9000aa44ff19db93aa87267556a-Christensen>
Subject:	This WEEK: HHS Community Health Feb 27- March 3, 2017
Date:	2017/02/27 09:58:09
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Folks, This week we have few funding announcements from SAMHSA, planning resources for next week's National Women and HIV/AIDS Awareness Day on March 10 (join the [Thunderclap](#) today!), as well as other resources and the latest blog posts from HHS. With thanks for the great work you lead in communities around the country, Heidi

Grant Announcements from SAMHSA

Friday, Feb 24, SAMHSA announced three new funding opportunities including:

- [Cooperative Agreements to Implement the National Strategy for Suicide Preventions \(National Strategy Grants\)](#)- Funding purpose is to support states in implement the [2012 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention \(NSSP\)](#) goals and objectives focused on preventing suicides and suicide attempts among adults age 25 and older in order to reduce the overall suicide rates and number of suicides in the U.S. nationally. Applications due
- [The Substance Abuse and HIV Prevention Navigator Program for Racial/Ethnic Minorities ages 13-14 Cooperative Agreement \(Prevention Navigator\)](#)- This funding for community-based domestic, public and private nonprofit entities, federally recognized American Indian/Alaska Native Tribes (AI/AN) and tribal organizations, and urban Indian organizations is targeting the population at highest risk for HIV and substance use disorders, especially racial/ethnic males 13-24 at risk for HIV/AIDS.
- [Services Grant Program for Residential Treatment for Pregnant and Postpartum Women \(PPW\)](#)- This funding for community-based domestic, public and private nonprofit entities which includes federally recognized American Indian/Alaska Native Tribes (AI/AN) and tribal organizations and consortia as well as public or private universities and colleges, and community and faith-based organizations, targets low-income women, age 18 or over, who are pregnant, postpartum, and have limited access to quality health services.

Applications for the above mentioned funding opportunities are due April 17, 2017. For more information on these and other recent RFP's visit <http://saeandassociates.com/current-rfps/#samhsa>

Planning a Spring Break Vacation or Mission Trip?

March is when travel all over the world for spring break activities- whether for adventure, family holidays or service mission trips. Please share the [CDC's website](https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel) with the most up-to-date information on travel tips and Zika steps to keep your community safe and healthy.

<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel>

National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day- March 10

Please take this opportunity to plan ahead for next week's [National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day](#) observance March 10, 2017. Led by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Women's Health, this year's theme is "**The Best Defense is a Good Offense**," promotes HIV prevention.

National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is an annual observance that sheds light on the impact of HIV and AIDS on women and girls. Every year on March 10, and throughout the month of March, national and community organizations come together to show support for women and girls impacted by HIV and AIDS. This year marks the 12th observance of National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

Today, about one in four people living with HIV in the United States is female. Only about half of women living with HIV are getting care, and only four in 10 of them have the virus under control. Women face unique HIV risks and challenges that can prevent them from getting needed care and treatment. Addressing these issues remains critical to achieving an HIV- and AIDS-free generation.

To learn more about each step, visit [What every woman needs to know about HIV](#), [What every girl needs to know about HIV](#), or the National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day [fact sheet](#).

<u>Now until March 10</u>	<u>Thunderclap</u> <u>#BestDefense</u>	Support the #BestDefense is a Good Offense campaign by j Tumblr. A one-time message will sent to your account on M out on the importance of HIV prevention! Please visit wv information or contact Adrienne Phenix at Adrienne.Phenix
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HHS Blogs

Walking and Rolling in 2017

February 17, 2017

By: Vivek H. Murthy, M.D., M.B.A., U.S. Surgeon General

“For me, walking is not only a public health priority; it is also a personal priority... In honor of American Heart Month, I encourage you to commit to making walking a greater part of your life.”

To read the full blog, click here: <https://www.hhs.gov/blog/2017/02/17/walking-and-rolling-2017.html>

Five Ways You Can Rejuvenate Your 2017 Health Resolutions

February 14, 2017

By: Nicholas Garlow, Digital Media Advisor, HHS

“It’s not too late to jump start your resolutions for a healthy 2017. Here are five suggestions you can adopt for a healthier you this year.”

To read the full blog, click here: <https://www.hhs.gov/blog/2017/02/14/five-ways-you-can-rejuvenate-your-2017-health-resolutions.html>

Cool Videos: Starring the Wiring Diagram of the Human Brain

February 13, 2017

By: Dr. Francis Collins, NIH Director

“See how tractography is helping scientists get a better picture of the human brain.”

To read the full blog, click here: <https://www.hhs.gov/blog/2017/02/13/cool-videos-starring-wiring-diagram-human-brain.html>

Educational Materials

Below you'll find materials related to the HHS priority areas.

Zika Virus: What You Need To Know

For up-to-date information on the Zika Virus and how you can protect yourself and your loved ones, visit <http://www.hhs.gov/zika/index.html>

The Opioids Epidemic

For information about the prescription drug and heroin overdose epidemic, and to learn what HHS is doing about it, visit <http://www.hhs.gov/opioids/>

Mental Health

For information about the basics of mental health and to learn what HHS is doing about it, visit <https://www.mentalhealth.gov/>

Health Insurance Marketplace

For more information about the Health Insurance Marketplace including official resources, research, news, and events visit <http://marketplace.cms.gov/>

MACRA

For presentations and informational videos about QPP, MIPS, and APMs, visit <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/Value-Based-Programs/MACRA-MIPS-and-APMs/Quality-Payment-Program-Events.html>.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the notices and events listed in these weekly notices and/or have a request for additional information. With great and many thanks,
Heidi

Heidi Christensen, Associate Director for Community Engagement

Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships/IEA/OS

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Ave, Washington D.C. 20201

(202) 358-3595 | www.hhs.gov/partnerships

Connect with us on Twitter! [@PartnersforGood](https://twitter.com/PartnersforGood)

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Sent Date:	2017/02/27 09:58:07
Delivered Date:	2017/02/27 09:58:09

From:	National Black Church Initiative <National_Black_Church_Initiative@email.admail.net>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	NBCI Wants to Help Our Church Members Newly Diagnosed With Lung Cancer
Date:	2017/02/08 13:32:13
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

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**NBCI Is Seeking to Help New
Diagnosed Lung Cancer Patients
Who Are Members of Our
Churches**

[GI Therapeutics logo](#)



G1 Therapeutics is enrolling patients in two studies for patients with extensive-stage SCLC to determine the potential benefit of G1T28 in addition to chemotherapy. These studies are investigating the potential clinical benefit of G1T28 in protecting bone marrow and preserving the immune system when administered prior to chemotherapy.

The first study (G1T28-02) is for newly diagnosed patients who have not yet received chemotherapy. The second study (G1T28-03) is for previously treated patients whose tumors have progressed (relapsed). In both studies, patients will receive either G1T28 or a placebo along with chemotherapy.

All patients will receive the standard of care chemotherapy. Treatment cycles will occur without interruption, except when necessary to manage potential side-effects or for administrative reasons (e.g., out of town). A delay of up to 2 weeks is permitted to allow recovery from any side-effects.

Potential benefits of G1T28

- **Protect bone marrow and preserve the immune system during chemotherapy**
- **Potential to significantly improve anti-tumor responses and patient outcomes by:**
 - **Enabling planned chemotherapy regimens and preserving immune system function**
 - **Reducing infections, bleeding, hospitalizations, transfusions, and growth-factor usage**

About NBCI

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a coalition of 34,000 African American and Latino churches working to eradicate disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBCI's mission is to provide critical wellness information to all of its members, congregants, churches and the public. The National Black Church Initiative's methodology is utilizing faith and sound health science. Visit our website at www.naltblackchurch.com.

Visit <http://www.naltblackchurch.com/contact-us.html> to VOLUNTEER with The National Black Church Initiative or contact Rev. Evans at [202-744-0184](tel:202-744-0184).

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Sent Date:	2017/02/08 13:30:15
Delivered Date:	2017/02/08 13:32:13

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Subject:	NBCI Wants to Help Our Church Members Newly Diagnosed With Lung Cancer
Date:	2017/01/03 09:32:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

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[GI Therapeutics logo](#)



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Subject:	NBCI Seeks Newly Diagnosed Men and Women Breast Cancer Patients Who Are Members of Our Churches
Date:	2017/05/17 13:31:38
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

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www.naltblackchurch.com

**NBCI Seeks Newly
Diagnosed Men and Women
Breast Cancer Patients Who
Are Members of Our
Churches**



Image of two women, one older, one younger and more athletic

1 Peter 5:7

⁴And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away. ⁵Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. ⁶Humble yourselves theref the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: ⁷Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

We would like to inform you of a study for men and women with breast cancer using ribociclib (Kisqali[®]) and letrozole (Femara[®]), two drugs that are already approved by the FDA (the US Food and Drug Administration). This combination of drugs is available on the market for certain breast cancer patients, but is still considered experimental for others. This study is called **CompLEEment-1** (protocol number **CLEE011A2404**).

Study Purpose: The goal of this study is to better understand the safety and effectiveness of ribociclib in combination with letrozole for patients with hormone receptor positive (ER+/PR+)/HER2- advanced or metastatic breast cancer.

Here is the population of individuals we are looking for:

- Men, premenopausal, and postmenopausal women with a certain type of advanced breast cancer, called hormone receptor positive (ER+/PR+)/HER2- breast cancer.
- Patients with advanced or metastatic breast cancer, which typically means that they have had to try different medications or that they were diagnosed late.

Where patients and caregivers can learn more:

To determine whether you are eligible for this study or to find a doctor's office closest to you, please contact: **1-855-413-9165** to speak with a medical information specialist. Discuss this fact sheet with your doctor.

More information is also available online: www.monaleesatrials.com

More information is also available online: www.clinicaltrials.gov **NCT02941926**

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Visit <http://www.naltblackchurch.com/contact-us.html> to VOLUNTEER with The National Black Church Initiative or contact Rev. Evans at [202-744-0184](tel:202-744-0184).

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Subject:	NBCI Wants to Help Our Members Newly Diagnosed With Breast Cancer
Date:	2017/03/20 09:31:36
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

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**NBCI Seeks Newly Diagnosed
Men and Women Breast Cancer
Patients Who Are Members of
Our Churches**



Two women, one older one athletic

This study will combine an experimental medicine ribociclib (*pronounced rye bo sigh clib*) with a drug that is already on the market, Femara (Letrozole).

Study Purpose:

Further evaluate the overall safety, tolerability and clinical efficacy of ribociclib in combination with letrozole in a large cohort of patients with HR+/HER2- ABC

Collect additional safety, tolerability and clinical efficacy data in a larger and broader patient population that includes: patients treated with prior chemotherapy for advanced disease.

Here is the population of individuals we are looking for:

- • **Patients with a certain type of advanced breast cancer which typically means that they have had to try many different medications or that they were diagnosed late**
 - • **Men and postmenopausal women with HR+/HER2- advanced/metastatic breast cancer who have not received any prior hormonal agent for the treatment of advanced disease**
- • **Patients would not have received any prior hormonal therapy**

Where patients and caregivers can learn more

To determine whether you are eligible for either study and enroll, please contact 1-866-921-6921 and discuss this fact sheet with your doctor.

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To:	OS - Nightly Report </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=977e1a0fc9394019a2e2b7cbf234bd50-NightlyRepo>
Subject:	Nightly Report for Thursday, February 16, 2017
Date:	2017/02/15 17:08:13
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

HHS PRESS OFFICE NIGHTLY REPORT

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Press Releases

(NIH) “NIH research helps explain how antibody treatment led to sustained remission of HIV-like virus

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-research-helps-explain-how-antibody-treatment-led-sustained-remission-hiv-virus>

(CMS) “2016-2025 Projections of National Health Expenditures Data Release”

<https://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Press-releases/2017-Press-releases-items/2017-02-15-2.html>

(CMS) “CMS Issues Proposed Rule to Increase Patients’ Health Insurance Choices for 2018”

<https://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Press-releases/2017-Press-releases-items/2017-02-15.html>

(NIH) “International study suggests Nodding syndrome caused by response to parasitic protein”

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/international-study-suggests-nodding-syndrome-caused-response-parasitic-protein>

-

Major Media Contacts

CDC

Robert (Doug) Daniels, epidemiologist, NIOSH interviewed with the Washington Post regarding the Firefighter Cancer Study.

Tim Henderson with Stateline/The Pew Charitable Trusts interviewed Ruth Shults, PhD, CDC's Injury Center about teen driving.

James Holt, DPH, health scientist, interviewed with The Nation's Health regarding the "500 Cities Project".

Reuters interviewed Rebecca Martin, PhD (CGH Director) and Dr. John Nkengasong, PhD, MSc (CGH DGHT) about Africa CDC, which officially launched in January 2017.

FDA

Ed Silverman, Pharmalot/STAT, with questions about FDA's TIRF REMS program for certain types of fentanyl opioid medications; provided cleared background. (SP)

Adrienne LaFrance, The Atlantic, requested information related to the Sargento cheese recall. In progress. (PC)

Gerry Wagschal, ABC News, with questions about counterfeit dental products. In progress. (SC)

Sandee LaMotte and Debra Goldschmidt, CNN, requested information about the FDA's review and study of over-the-counter Miralax and its use in children from a recent investigative news story out of Philadelphia. Cleared response provided. (AF)

-

IHS

Hope Yen, Associated Press, requested information on number of IHS and tribal hospitals. Referred to fact sheet and map on IHS.gov

SAMHSA

Ashley Logan with the Governing Institute is developing a publication in collaboration with the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association for state and local officials regarding the opioid disorder problem and what can be done to address it. She is looking to interview Kana Enomoto to get SAMHSA's perspective on the issue and the steps SAMHSA has taken to address it. We are in the process of working out arrangements.

ABC reporter Justin Balding is interested in finding out more about the Sinclair Method of treating alcohol abuse. Apparently this method encourages the moderate consumption of alcohol by those in treatment. We are researching.

Hearst producer Lauren McDevitt sought and received information about opioid recovery programs that allow children to reside at treatment centers with their mothers.

Rachel Rouben with the Hill Extra sought and received updated info on the current status of the Part 2 rule.

Regional Outlets and Other Interviews and Background

ACF

Hamed Aleaziz of the San Francisco Chronicle (Calif.) asked about refugee resettlement and was referred to the State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration.

Sylvia Harvey of the Nation (N.Y.) was provided background information about data collection for the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.

AHRQ

Alexa Fleming, a freelance writer for People Magazine, requested current data for the number of hospital discharges of babies born with neonatal abstinence syndrome. We provided her with data from 2014 from AHRQ's Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project.

CDC

Bob Garfield with WNYC interviewed Debbie Dowell, MD, MPH, CDC's Injury Center, about the prescription drug overdose epidemic.

Carla I. Mercado, PhD, DHDSP, interviewed with Asbury Park Press regarding women with heart disease.

Louise Shaw, curator, CDC Museum, interviewed with Explore Gwinnett Magazine regarding museum history, exhibits and events.

CMS

Andrea Praegitzer, reporting for the Charlotte-Sun, Port Charlotte, FL, asked for some specific concerns on Sarasota Memorial Hospital and its 5-star rating from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the expectations for 2017 ratings, ratings by hospital ownership type, i.e., for-profit vs not-for-profit and origins of the Hospital Compare program. CMS press officers in Washington DC and Atlanta region public affairs answered.

Warren Richey, a staff writer for The Christian Science Monitor is researching information for a series of articles on health care fraud. A macro view of potential stories will address overall cost of fraud, how such estimates are calculated, and whether fraud is increasing or decreasing, and make use of past fraud cases to illustrate how these crimes took place. Richey is reviewing possible solutions -- like CMS' data analytics -- and increased law enforcement to show efforts effective in countering fraud and other promising approaches.

Daphne Chen, Deseret News, Salt Lake City, was updated with information that the inspection of Utah State Hospital; she previously inquired about a possible termination track determination for this facility. The case is solely based on accreditation purposes and is not connected with CMS. She was referred to the Utah Health Department, the survey agency, for further information.

CMS Atlanta Region Press Officer conducted introductory call with Luis David Fuentes, publisher of El Kentucbano, a monthly magazine for the Spanish Community of Louisville, KY. With a circulation of 10,000 printed copies distributed in more than 150 points in Greater Louisville Metro Area, including 8 Kroger locations. The discussion centered on potentially creating and writing a monthly health column to educate the magazine's readers about CMS' resources, services and health reform initiatives.

David Bruce, Erie Times-News, reporting on the latest Marketplace enrollment snapshot, wanted to know what geographical area is represented by the Erie DMA. He also wanted to know how far back CMS has been reporting enrollment figures by DMAs. He was told that the DMA is defined by zip codes the majority of which are in the counties of Erie, Crawford and Warren, though some may bleed into neighboring counties. He was also told that CMS first reported DMA-based enrollment snapshots in the middle of the 2015 OEP for the 2016 enrollment year.

Paul Sisson, San Diego Union Tribune, asked for technical assistance in decompressing a CMS file on hospital survey reports. Requesting help from RO9 survey and certification.

FDA

Jim Myers, ECigIntelligence.com, with questions on the Modified Risk Tobacco Product and Premarket Tobacco Application process. (MF)

Adriana Barton, The Globe and Mail (Vancouver, Canada) and Laura Sanders, Science News, asking about the FDA's response to a recent NEJM article on the agency's new warnings for children and pregnant/nursing women on the use of anesthesia; in progress. (SP)

The Atlantic is hosting a biosimilar forum on March 15 and invited FDA to speak on its new biosimilar guidelines on naming and interchangeability. FDA declined the speaking invitation. (HR)

Kathleen McLaughlin, The Bulletin (Oregon), requested information related to the JEM Nut Butter recall. In progress. (PC)

Monica Eng, WBEZ Chicago, was provided information related to airline food safety regulations. (PC)

Ken Bender, Pain Medicine News, asking about presentations on the topic of treating pain in children presented at a recent advisory committee meeting; shared links to website. (SP)

Corinne Purtill, Quartz, requested why the FDA doesn't regulate tissue for research. Provided response. (AF)

Sofia La Chapelle, Telemundo, requested interview on recent Bella Beauty indictments. Coordinating with Miami District Office. (SC)

Joe Carlson, Minneapolis Star Tribune, requesting interview to discuss device recalls and new research coming out on manufacturers' bias in evaluating data. In progress. (DK)

Marsha McCulloch, Tufts Nutrition Letter, questions on added sugars in new nutrition facts label. In progress. (DK)

Matt Ong, the Cancer Letter, requested and was provided with the FDA's statement on the GAO morcellator report. (DK)

Katlin Connin, ABC-22 South Bend (Indiana), was provided with information about the FDA recall process related to the Sargento/Deutsch Kase Haus cheese recall. (PC)

Rob McMillin, ABC-7 Los Angeles, was provided information about FDA's shell egg guidance and rules. (PC)

Charlie Osborne, ZDNet, received correction request regarding information about FDA's medical device cybersecurity authority and guidances. Corrections made. (AS)

HRSA

Daily Star (UK) reporter Joshua Nevett was referred to the experts at the Hawaii State Department of Health for his article on Hansen's disease at Kalaupapa, HI.

IHS

Charles Clark, Cronkite News, is requesting an interview with a Native physician for a profile. In progress.

SAMHSA

Teri Sforza with the Orange County Register/Southern California News Group is seeking data on substance use treatment programs throughout California and the US. We are researching

Daren B Hansen with the trade publication Transportation Safety is seeking information on the current status of hair-based testing systems. We are researching.

Alison Insinger with the trade publication ADAW sought and received information regarding the prevalence of treatment admissions in general.

Alison Insinger with the trade publication ADAW also sought and received information about SAMHSA perceptions of a Islandic program promoting substance use disorders. We informed her that we are interested in looking at any proposed approach – especially if it is evidence-based.

Theresa Defino with the trade publication Report on Research Compliance sought and received updated info on the current status of the Part 2 rule.

Lou Michel from the Buffalo News sought and received information regarding treatment data for opioids.

Andrew Dawson of Men's Health Magazine requested and received information about Narcan. His is still conducting preliminary research.

Sender:	Formoso, Paula (HHS/ASPA) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=374F1F0D618848EE8EF0BF0E9AFB14BB-FORMOSO, PA>
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Sent Date:	2017/02/15 17:08:09
Delivered Date:	2017/02/15 17:08:13

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To:	OS - Nightly Report </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=d846ad1b75b14263ab56046f271527b7-NightlyRepo>
Subject:	Nightly Report for Thursday, October 5, 2017
Date:	2017/10/04 17:01:23
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

HHS PRESS OFFICE NIGHTLY REPORT

Thursday, October 5, 2017

Press Releases

(CDC) "CDC HIV Expert Wins Samuel J. Heyman Award for Career Achievement"

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2017/p1004-heyman-award-ellerbrock.html>

(IHS) "IHS Awards \$16.5 Million in Grants to Support Behavioral Health Programs"

<https://www.ihs.gov/newsroom/pressreleases/2017pressreleases/ihs-awards-16-5-million-in-grants-to-support-behavioral-health-programs>

(NIH) "NIDCR announces 2017 Sustaining Outstanding Achievement in Research awards"

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nidcr-announces-2017-sustaining-outstanding-achievement-research-awards>

(NIH) "NIH Grantee Wins 2017 Nobel Prize in Chemistry"

<https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/nih-grantee-wins-2017-nobel-prize-chemistry>

Major Media Contacts

AHRQ

Sarah Kwon, a freelancer, and Renee Caruthers of 360Dx requested information on the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force's draft recommendation statement on Screening for Cervical Cancer. They were provided the information.

Janel Miller of Healio requested an embargoed interview and the embargoed materials on the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force's draft recommendation statement on Behavioral Counseling for Skin Cancer. She was provided the materials and her request is pending.

Amy Herman of New England Journal of Medicine's Physician's First Watch, Cindy Haines of HealthDay, and Nancy Lapid of Reuters requested the embargoed materials on the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force's draft recommendation statement on Behavioral Counseling for Skin Cancer. They were provided the materials.

FDA

Bronwyn Mixter, Bloomberg BNA, was provided interview with Julie Dohm on compounding, specifically on office stock and the MOU with the states. (LM)

Shannon Palus, Wirecutter, working on a story on hearing aids. FDA intends to solicit public input regarding hearing aids that can be sold directly over-the-counter. In the meantime, FDA does not intend to enforce compliance with the specified “conditions of sale” for certain hearing aids. (TE)

Desiree Wiley, NBC, Mary Clare Jalonick, AP, Art Silverman, NPR, asked about love ingredient in bakery warning letter. Sent cleared statement. (DK)

Crystal Hill, AP, sent statement on love ingredients in bakery warning letter and asked her to update story to include. Updated. (DK)

Susan Scutti, CNN; Nate Raymond, Reuters; Alaina Tedesco, Healio.com; requested comment from FDA on the ACLU’s lawsuit against FDA regarding the REMS restrictions on mifepristone. FDA doesn’t comment on litigation.

Leslie Goldman, Parents Magazine, requested information on the number and types of different FDA-approved contraception methods. (AF)

Nate Raymond, Reuters, was provided background information on compounding risk alerts. (LM)

Anna Edney, Bloomberg, asked about love ingredient in bakery warning letter. Sent cleared statement. (JR/LS/DK)

ONC

Darius Tahir, Politico, asked ONC for a link to the state-by-state EHR adoption rates reported in a story in the Wisconsin State Journal. He was told the news story had confused MU rates with adoption and was provided with the correct links.

Greg Slabodkin, Health Data Management, asked ONC when more information about the Health IT Advisory Committee would be released. He was told “soon.”

SAMHSA

Angus Chen with NPR requested information on ED visits for drug overdoses. He was referred to CDC

Regional Outlets and Other Interviews and Background

ACF

Hannah Harris Green of Vice (N.Y.) inquired about doctors from other countries seeking refugee status in the U.S. and was referred to the State Department’s Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration for additional information.

CMS

Terri Langford, reporter for The Morning News in Dallas, asked how evacuations from nursing homes affect Medicare reimbursements. The CMS Dallas regional press officer is working with the Survey and Certification Group on a response.

Holly Hacker, reporter for The Morning News in Dallas, asked whether there is online access to nursing home inspection reports that go back more than three years. The CMS Dallas regional press officer is working with the Survey and Certification Group on a response.

Thomas Cole, reporter for The New Mexican in Santa Fe, NM, asked for an update on Casa Real nursing home in Santa Fe. The CMS Dallas regional press officer said the facility was back in substantial compliance and is working with the Dallas Division of Survey and Certification to provide any releasable reports or enforcement letters from recent months.

Andrew LaCombe from WLUCTV 6 in Upper Peninsula, Michigan, wrote asking if we have results that can yet be made public on a recent complaint survey of Upper Peninsula Health – Marquette Hospital. CMS Chicago team is at work reviewing the survey results for a response.

Kirsten Dize, Content Manager for DecisionHealth, contacted with questions about the issues around denials with reason code 37253. She had questions about how to handle denials due to mismatched Medicare numbers that happen because there is a change in that number during an episode. CMS component and a press officer let her know there will be a fact sheet in the coming week with instructions for HHAs on how to handle this.

Jerry Taylor, reporting for ABC10/WBUP in Ishpeming, Michigan, asked for payment and contracting status of an Iron Mountain, Mich. Company under investigation for Medicare billing fraud. A CMS press officer shared that under privacy laws and protocol we cannot share the information requested. He was redirected to seek information from Department of Justice or the HHS Office of the Inspector General. The press officer also shared a link listing health care providers who have been excluded from participating in the Medicare programs and the reasons why.

John Fritze, Baltimore Sun, Washington Bureau, contacted RO 3 seeking CMS reaction to an HHS OIG report issued Sept. 28 on the lack of timeliness of states' responses to nursing home complaints. He was specifically interested in Maryland being a low performer. He also wanted to know where to find copies of reports and complaints. He was provided links to the Nursing Home Compare website for the reports, along with links to other Nursing Home Compare-related information and data sites. As for comments, his request was referred to CMS MRG.

A column by San Francisco regional administrator Greg Dill about the differences between Original Medicare and Medicare Advantage was published by 49 newspapers, magazines, and online news sites in Arizona, California, Hawaii, and Nevada. AZ: Arizona Daily Star (Tucson); Lake Powell Chronicle; Green Valley News; The Outpost (publication of US Army Proving Ground, Yuma); SonoranNews.com; KHIL-FM. CA: Bakersfield Californian; Ft. Bragg Advocate-News; Orange County Breeze; Huntington Beach News; El Chicano (San Bernardino); Eureka Times-Standard; Santa Monica Daily Press; Kern Valley Sun; Sierra Star; Castro Valley

Forum; Red Bluff Daily News; Precinct Reporter Group (3 African American papers in SoCal); India West; San Bernardino American (African-American); Fairfield Daily Republic; San Fernando Sun; Fallbrook Village News; ThePineTree.net; Colton Courier; East County (San Diego) Magazine; San Leandro Times; Capitola Soquel Times; Aptos Times; Scotts Valley Times; Rialto Record; Agoura Hills Acorn; IGLiving.com; Riverbank News; Oakdale Leader; Patch.com sites in Los Angeles, Encino, Murrieta, and San Carlos. HI: Honolulu Star-Advertiser. NV: Las Vegas Tribune; Nevada Appeal (Carson City); Elko Daily; Minden-Gardnerville Record-Courier. Spanish: El Sol de San Fernando (CA). Outside RO9: St. George (UT) Daily Spectrum.

Katielynn Bedard Goytowski, an apparent blogger, is seeking comments regarding the pending expiration of CHIP funding. She has reached out to multiple regional press officers and the DC-based press office; CMS press is working to identify the news outlet she works with or plans to submit a freelance article to for consideration. CMS DC-based press has reached back to the blogger for a list of questions to get a better sense of the potential story's angle; inquiry pending.

Betty Lin-Fisher of the Akron Beacon Journal wrote to the Chicago Regional Office with a series of questions about Medicare Open Enrollment for a story the newspaper plans to run on October 15, the start of Open Enrollment. Answered.

Jill Maxwell & Liz Owens of WRDW-TV, Augusta, Georgia are doing several stories on the opioid epidemic and asked for more CMS data on prescribers outside of the datasets for 2014 and 2015 they have reviewed and are asking for more current data. The news team is looking at prescribers who fall in the upper percentages of the opioid prescribing rate, and seek clarifications on how monitoring, edits and testing works. An interview has been requested as subject matter teams work to respond. No publication or air date has been defined on this news story.

FDA

Ashley James, WMAR-TV (ABC, Baltimore), with questions about the FDA's position on gadolinium-based contrast agents. In progress. (LSD)

Karen Tkach Tuzman, BioCentury, requested update on timing on regenerative medicine guidances, and how to stay in the loop on updates in this space. (AF)

Daniel Mollenkamp, ECigIntelligence, with questions on timing of Philip Morris International premarket tobacco product application for IQOS. No information to share. (MF)

Sarah Mock, RFDTV, requested and received a link to the FDA's comments on the proposed Codex move. (LS)

Diane Lade, Sun-Sentinel (Fort Lauderdale, FL), with questions on stem cell treatments. In development. (AF)

Erin Spaht, WUSA 9 (Washington DC), was provided background information on kratom. (LM)

Beth Wang, Inside Health Policy, with questions graphic health warnings for cigarettes. (MF)

Danny Al-Faruque, Medtech Insight, with questions on FDA's regulatory review efforts. (MF)

Mary Beth Quirk, Consumerist, Steve Annear, Boston Globe, Robert King, Washington Examiner, Rachel Kraus, Mashable, asked about love ingredient in bakery warning letter. Sent cleared statement. (DK)

Kimberly Suiters, WJLA-TV (Washington, D.C.), with follow-up question about black salves and cancer treatments. In progress. (AS)

Atsuko Nameki, NHK Public Television (Japan), with questions about the FDA's safety communication regarding cybersecurity vulnerabilities in Abbott/St. Jude Medical pacemakers. In progress. (AS)

Carl Phillips, The Daily Vaper, received information regarding technical issues with the FURLS tobacco registration module. (MF)

Darlene Jones, ABC Orlando, with questions about breast implant registry. In progress. (SC)

Dan Gray, Healthline News and Paul Muschick, Allentown Morning Call, requested and received our statement on the OIG's report on food facility inspections. (LS)

Grace Edquist, TeenVogue, received details to fact check a story on cosmetics regulation. (LS)

Dory Jackson, International Business Times, asked about tattoo ink safety. She is writing about a woman whose lymphoma turned out to be tattoo ink. (TE)

SAMHSA

Erica Evans with Deseret News requested and received information on grant funding for Utah. She does not yet have a date of publication

Maria Castellucci with Modern Healthcare requests an interview on hurricane relief and mental health. We are working to arrange.

Valarie Canady with Mental Health Weekly sought and received information regarding SAMHSA's behavioral health efforts in the Las Vegas shooting.

Olga Khazan with Atlantic News is seeking an interview to discuss different methods to get addiction treatment. We are working to arrange.

V/R,

Naweed Lemar

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Direct: 202-690-6889

(b)(6)

Email: naweed.lemar@hhs.gov

Sender:	Lemar, Naweed (OS/ASPA) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=BDD222A2AC644600A7167233AF2271F8-LEMAR, NAWEE>
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Subject:	FW: OASH Weekly Report 2.28.2018: OWH
Date:	2018/02/28 17:27:42
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

From: Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS)

Sent: Wednesday, February 28, 2018 5:25 PM

To: 'Broido, Tara (HHS/)'

Cc: Bishop-Crawford, Jennifer (OS/OASH) (Jennifer.Bishop-Crawford@hhs.gov); Evans, Syreeta (OS/OASH); 'Gianelli, Diane M (OASH)'; Greene, Nicole (OS/OASH); Kotwicki, Lauren (HHS/OASH); Elizabeth Osborn; Tytel, Jessica (OS/OASH)

Subject: OASH Weekly Report 2.28.2018: OWH

Hi Tara –

Below are the tweets for @HHS_Health:

- RT of @womenshealth tweet about the Women's Mental Health workshop.
<https://twitter.com/womenshealth/status/967118874482302976>
- #Eatingdisorders usually start during the teen years. Check out this info from @girlshealth on how to recognize the major signs & get help: <http://go.usa.gov/x9E35>.
#NEDAwarenessWeek

****Please send either one of the messages below after Wednesday, February 7 but no later than March 9****

- National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is approaching & we are sharing what every woman should know about HIV! Click here to find out more→
[#NWGHAAD](https://go.usa.gov/xntm6)

Original Link: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/nwghaad/>



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- March 10 is National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day! Here's what you can do to support women and girls about HIV prevention: [#NWGHAAD](https://go.usa.gov/xntyg)

Original Link: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/nwghaad/resources/ideas-observing-nwghaad>



cid:image002.png@01D3B0B5.D4168090

*****Post on March 10****

- Today is National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day! Click here to learn more about the day & how you can help spread the word about HIV prevention:
[#NWGHAAD](https://go.usa.gov/xntyq)

Original Link: <https://www.womenshealth.gov/nwghaad/resources/fact-sheet>



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Report is below.

Best,

Jill

Upcoming Events/Announcements:

Date: March 7, 2018.

Event: *Women's Mental Health Across The Life Course Through A Sex-Gender Lens: A National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Workshop* sponsored by HHS OWH.

Time and Location: 8:30am to 5:00pm at the District Architecture Center, 421 7th St NW Washington, DC. [Register for the webcast.](#)

Spokespersons: Nicole Greene, Acting Director, Office on Women's Health – HHS, and Admiral Brett P. Giroir, M.D., Assistant Secretary for Health – HHS (invited to speak). If he declines, Surgeon General, Jerome M. Adams, M.D., M.P.H. will speak.

Background: This workshop will examine the landscape of women and girls' mental health across the lifespan focusing on the effects of sex, gender and other social determinants of health. The workshop panel will include research experts, who have used multi-level analytic approaches to explore the environmental, sociocultural, behavioral, and biological factors that impact women's mental health at different stages of life and across different racial/ethnic groups. Gaps in research, policy, or services will be identified and discussed. There will be a workshop summary report that will include key findings and provide recommendations for future OWH work. The workshop audience will include key stakeholders and experts from across clinical, behavioral, and public health disciplines in the public and private sector and is open to the public. Up to 150 attendees can participate in-person and others can join remotely via the webcast.

Talking points: Nicole Greene will give 5 minute welcome remarks on the workshop's importance to the work of OWH and introduce the HHS speaker. Admiral Giroir or Surgeon General Adams will give introductory remarks about the importance of mental health for women and the work the Department is doing in the mental health arena.

Media: No.

Date: March 8, 2018.

Event: DOJ and HHS OWH *Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: What Medical Service Providers Need to Know* Meeting.

Time and Location: 2-4pm and 810 7th St. NW, Washington DC 20001.

Spokespersons: Dr. Ranit Mishori (clinician); FA Cole (survivor); Nicole Greene, Acting Director, OWH, and TBD for someone from Department of Justice's Human Rights and Special Prosecutions (HRSP).

Background: HRSP and OWH will co-host an invite-only roundtable meeting on female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) for medical service providers. This meeting is intended to share accurate information regarding the legal and health considerations associated with FGM/C. Meeting participants will be government relations contacts/leadership from clinical membership associations, and clinicians from local hospitals.

Talking points: Nicole Greene will speak about the unique health considerations for women who have been subjected to the practice, and how medical harms can be used in prevention messaging.

Media: No.

Flagging: None.

Date: March 10, 2018.

Event: National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

Time & Location: All day, national.

Background: NWGHAAD is an annual, nationwide observance that sheds light on the impact of HIV and AIDS on U.S. women and girls. This year's theme, "HIV prevention starts with me" emphasizes that everyone can take steps to prevent HIV infection or prevent HIV transmission to a partner. OWH will encourage women and girls to take steps to protect themselves from getting HIV, including practicing safe sex, getting an HIV test, and talking to a doctor for Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) or Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) if they think they are at risk; encourage women and girls who are HIV-positive to take their HIV medication, as prescribed, to suppress their viral load in order to reduce the transmission of HIV to HIV-negative partners; and encourage health professionals to talk with all patients about HIV risk and the steps to prevent transmission.

Tactics: website; Thunderclap; NWGHAAD email updates; social media outreach; online and traditional media outreach; etc.

Media: Yes.

Flagging: None.

Date: March 12-13, 2018.

Event: *Consequences of the Opioid Epidemic on the Spread of Infectious Disease: Incidence, Prevalence, and Mutually Beneficial Opportunities to Improve Prevention, Care, and Treatment in the United States: A National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Workshop sponsored by HHS OHAIDP and OWH.*

Time and Location: Time TBD, Keck Center 500 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC. [Register for the webinar.](#)

Spokespersons: TBD, we anticipate that OWH and OHAIDP will be invited to provide remarks.

Background: The workshop will examine the infectious disease consequences of the opioid epidemic, including the scope of the problem, giving particular attention to viral hepatitis, HIV, and endocarditis; the infectious disease co-morbidities of injection drug use, especially strategies that emphasize existing public health, health care, and community infrastructures; and the special needs of women and specific strategies to address these needs. Speakers at the workshop will present on how the opioid epidemic has changed the epidemiology of infectious disease, particularly in Alabama, Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, and West Virginia. In panel and open discussion, participants will consider strategies to prevent and treat infections in people who inject drugs. The public workshop will focus on ways to work efficiently through the existing systems that reach people at increased risk for either opioid use disorder and/or infectious diseases such as public health, medical, substance use disorder treatment, and law enforcement. Effective novel strategies will also be discussed, and may include analysis of promising European or Canadian programs.

Talking points: TBD, depending on spokesperson.

Media: No.

Upcoming Speeches/Interviews:

Date: March 7, 2018.

Event: Schar School of Policy and Government, George Mason University *Workshop on Women's Health in Global Perspective.*

Time and Location: 9am – 5pm and George Mason University, Founders Hall Room 113, 3351 Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia.

Spokesperson: Beth Collins-Sharp, Director, Division of Program Innovation, Office on Women's Health - HHS.

Background: The workshop features mostly academic speakers - professors from universities across the country who are considering policy issues related women's health. There are panels throughout the day on communicable and non-communicable disease, health and wellbeing, maternal health, etc. The workshop, which is free and open to the public, seeks to contribute to understanding and improve policy on women's health and wellbeing around the world.

Talking points: Beth is giving opening remarks –15 minutes—on the mission and initiatives of OWH and the importance on women's health.

Media: None.

Anticipated Reports/Papers/Products: None.

Social Media for OASH and/or Departmental Amplification:

For February, OWH will highlight the following awareness activities and topics through our social media channels, websites, and the on-hold messaging for OWH's Helpline, 1-800-994-9662:

- American Heart Month
- Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month
- National Eating Disorders Awareness Week (February 25 – March 3)
- National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (March 10)
- OWH printable and shareable fact sheets
- Evergreen OWH content

For March, OWH will highlight the following awareness activities and topics through our social media channels, websites, and the on-hold messaging for OWH's Helpline, 1-800-994-9662:

- National Kidney Month/World Kidney Day (March 8)
- National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (March 10)
- National Youth Violence Prevention Week (March 19–23)
- National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (March 20)
- National Endometriosis Awareness Month
- National Nutrition Month
- Women's History Month
- National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month
- OWH printable and shareable fact sheets
- Evergreen OWH content

We continue to promote other and updated content from the Womenshealth.gov and Girlshealth.gov websites on social media. OWH also retweets/shares content from other federal offices and agencies as it relates to women and girl's health.

Jill Lauren Wasserman, MPH

Health Education Specialist



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Jill.Wasserman1@hhs.gov

Main: 202.690.7650 | Direct: 202.260.9275

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Telework Days: Wednesdays & Fridays

Sender:	Wasserman, Jill (OS/OPHS) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=20CA3C5D293C4AFD9FB842D0D2F8C823-WASSERMAN,>
Recipient:	Abercrombie, Ann (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b7c3fe81d0034e96a174a52966ee06bc-Abercrombie>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>; Leggin, Brooke (HHS/OWH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=7d8177b2d8e041769bf3ddab0103f6ce-Leggin, Bro>; Marshall, Candace (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4fc8bd26d02246a09da4fda0b896d46f-Marshall, C>; Phenix, Adrianne (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=ac73a58ee24044bc98c4dd74e24d8740-Phenix, Adr>; Tytel, Jessica (OS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=user49a52840>
Sent Date:	2018/02/28 17:27:38
Delivered Date:	2018/02/28 17:27:42

From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
To:	Armine M. Kourouyan <akourouy@usc.edu>; Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
CC:	Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c4fdb2a19ad4755a5a8932dbf993ff4-Smith, Apri>
Subject:	RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style
Date:	2017/03/14 10:25:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Armine,

Great news on securing a venue.

Dr. Downey thinks she can attend the event. She is excited to do so, but is working on her nationwide certification and wanted a week or so to clear her schedule and confirm. You can learn about her at: <http://drkeishadowney.com/about/>

What do you mean by a real person storyteller? I figured that Cortney Lovell could do that since she is a recovered addict and a recovery coach, addictions counselor, and national advocate. Did you have something else in mind? Would a call with Cortney be helpful to make sure we are all on the same page?

Also now that you have the venue can you prepare a Save the Date or Invite? How many people do you think will attend?

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [mailto:akourouy@usc.edu]
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 9:16 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Valerie,

We have confirmed the SAG –AFTRA Foundation screening room for the event on the 19th. The address is:

5757 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90036

Below are a few hotel options in the area. We've had folks stay at The Orlando in the past and it seems to work out well.

Elan Hotel \$233/nte
The Orlando \$258/nte
Kimpton Hotel \$300/nte

Any update on confirmation from Dr. Downey? Also, did you have a real person storyteller in mind, or should we work to line somebody up?

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center
8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Monday, March 13, 2017 at 1:25 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Armine and Kate,

Any update on the venue?

Also, can you give me hotel recommendations or the general vicinity of where I should look? I'll probably fly in on April 19 and out on the 20th. It'll be a quick trip ☺

Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 4:54 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Valerie,
Yes we can incorporate that format for the event. Thanks for letting us know.

We are doing a walk-through of another venue tomorrow so we should have something confirmed soon. Will definitely keep you posted!

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH

Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
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From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 11:12 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Armine and Kate,

I've spoken with the SG's staff and they told me that in terms of presentations he prefers a Q & A fireside chat format. See the example from the at Lake Nona Impact Forum:

<https://www.facebook.com/lakenonainstitute/videos/724603937717670/>

Is it possible to incorporate this format in the April 19 event? Also have you been able to find a larger room? I know you were concerned that the Children's Hospital room would not be large enough.

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 4:21 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

This is great – thanks Valerie. We will look over the information and determine the best angles to use. Once we have a draft tip sheet developed, we'll send it over to you for approval.

Best regards,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
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From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 6:14 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>, "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I'm not entirely sure how you create the tip sheets. I have included links to two resources in this email that give a lot of detail about opioid use, misuse, treatment and prevention. However, I've also included some angles below that may appeal more to the writers/producers than a fact sheet with data. The information in the two resource links support these angles. Please let me know if all this is helpful and if you need anything else.

The easiest thing is to focus on the increases in women as compared to men, although some of the newest data out of CDC is showing a leveling off in this area (some of the new data is in the HHS/OWH white paper, some came out after it was done). <https://www.womenshealth.gov/publications/federal-report/index.html#a2016>

Some other angles to consider:

1) Women as parents and caregivers: An obvious hook here would be the increase in women using during pregnancy and the rise in neonatal abstinence syndrome, but there are other angles here. For example, women with children have a lot of challenges getting treatment and other resources because they are often not family friendly. There is also the fact that women often bear responsibility for family members with substance use disorders, because of their role as the health care gatekeeper for the family.

2) The dramatic increase in overdoses as a result of fentanyl and other synthetics: While there is not a significant gender disparity here, this is a huge issue that is only going to get worse. One angle is the fact that people are unknowingly buying and using fentanyl because dealers are mixing it with other drugs and not telling their customers (fentanyl is cheaper than other opioids, but also far more deadly in small doses).

3) Naloxone and Good Samaritan laws: This is a good news story – the fact that the increasingly availability of naloxone has cut down the number of fatal overdoses. However, there has been at least one study that has suggested that women are less likely to get naloxone (especially older women) because they do not fit the typical “addict” profile and first responders don’t initially recognize that they have overdosed.

In addition to the white paper provided above, another good resource is the CDC grand rounds session: (<https://www.cdc.gov/cdcgrandrounds/archives/2017/january2017.htm>).

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor

Division of Strategic Communications



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Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 3:13 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,
In preparation for the April event, we wanted to get started on drafting a tip sheet on opioids. Is there a particular topic or direction you'd like us to focus on for the tip sheet?

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
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8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at 1:07 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I have two potential people for the panel. Let me know what you think.

Dr. Keisha Downey – she has worked in the LA area doing addiction counseling.

Cortney Lovell is a recovery coach, addictions counselor, and national advocate.

I do plan to come to the event as will my supervisor, Jennifer Bishop Crawford. What time of day do you plan to hold the event?

I'm available to discuss further:
Thurs, between 2:30-5
Fri, Between 2:30-5

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2017 5:09 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Yes we are confirmed for April 19th. I'm still waiting to nail down a conference space at Children's Hospital, which is likely to happen, but if for some odd reason it doesn't work we'll find another venue for that date.

Also, I believe you had some "real people" that would be willing to share their personal stories at the panel. We'd like to invite one or two storytellers to give their personal account of opioids addiction/recovery. If you have anyone to recommend that would be great. Will you be joining for the event as well?

Just let me know some dates/times you are available for a call and we can discuss further details.

Best regards,
Armine

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8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
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From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 7:36 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I'm checking in again on the date. The SG is planning on the 19th so I hope that date will work. Can we set up a call to go over the details?

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 1:31 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Of course. Will try to confirm that date asap.

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
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8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, January 27, 2017 at 2:05 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I've been told that the SG is available on April 19 so can you please try to make that date work if possible?

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 4:55 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

We had to look into a venue change because we learned that the WGAW venue is unavailable for events through June due to internal negotiations. We are considering a conference room space at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. I'm checking availability for that week of April 17th. I'll let you know the options as soon as possible.

Great blog. We'll definitely share it through our social media as well.

Best,

Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
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p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 12:18 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Armine and Kate,

Do you have a confirmed date yet for the Writer's Guild West event in April? It looks like the SG will still be with us so the sooner I get an exact date the greater the chances he can attend. I'd also like to get started on reaching out to the other speakers. I have given the tentative dates to the survivor, Cortney Lovell. And just today we posted a blog by her on our website:

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog/the-power-of-women-and-recovery.html>

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 2:59 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Please see the attached form. Let me know if you need anything else. A few spots are guestimates for now (audience size) but a good ballpark to start with.

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
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8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Thursday, January 5, 2017 at 8:21 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Armine,

I will keep you posted on the SG's LA date for Jan or March.

Can you look at the attached invitation for the SG to come to the April event and correct and fill in the blanks? I have several question marks, etc.

Thanks!

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 4:14 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Great, just keep us posted on his date in LA and we'll pitch a briefing to a couple of shows. We'll definitely ask Grey's Anatomy since I'm sure they'd be interested in speaking with him in depth.

As for the event, we are looking at either April 19th or 20th. It'll be at the Writers Guild of America, West in Los Angeles. We will be holding a board meeting that evening, and since our board is comprised of network executives and showrunners, we thought it would be great to have the SG be a featured speaker at the meeting for a more intimate event, with possibly a few other handpicked guests as well. It'd be great to have the opioid survivor speak as well (I just need her full name, email and phone to add her to our database).

I'm in the process of checking availability for those dates so I'll let you know as soon as I have more info.

Please let me know if you have any other questions in the meantime.

Best,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center

8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 11:56 AM
To: Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>, "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Kate and Armine,

The SG's office just let me know that they are currently finalizing his LA schedule. The back- up date for Feb 21st is March 14th. I'll keep you posted on the date so you can set up some meetings.

Also I was told to submit a request for the April Opioids event which is a good sign! Can you tell me if the event is still scheduled for April and any other details so I can put into the SG's invite request? I'll need the subject, location, other invited speakers, etc.

Thanks. Valerie

From: Kate Langrall Folb [<mailto:langrall@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 12:51 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Armine M. Kourouyan
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,
Happy New Year!

Sorry for the late response but we were closed over the holidays.
Unfortunately, we have another event scheduled for Feb. 22 that we cannot change. However, if the SG would have some time on the 21st, we would love to pitch him to meet one-on-one with a show or two. Do you have any idea when/if the SG will change? How shall we proceed in working with the current SG for the 21st?

Armine will connect with you regarding the opioid survivor.

Kate

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, December 23, 2016 at 8:29 AM
To: Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>, "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Kate and Armine,

I wanted to let you that the Surgeon General will be in Los Angeles on Feb 21. We had hoped to have him participate in the West Coast writers guild event currently scheduled for April (I believe). Since we don't know how long he will stay in his position under the new administration is it possible to hold it in February instead since he will be in LA?

Also I have been in touch with the opioid survivor advocate who was on a panel with the SG at our Opioids meeting. She is willing to participate in the LA event as well as be listed as a SME resource in your database. What do you need from her to get into your database?

Wishing you both happy holidays!

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor

Division of Strategic Communications



go_Final_Color

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Valerie.borden@hhs.gov

Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-0270

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

Sender:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
Recipient:	Armine M. Kourouyan <akourouy@usc.edu>; Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>; Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c4fdb2a19ad4755a5a8932dbf993ff4-Smith, Apri>
Sent Date:	2017/03/14 10:25:58
Delivered Date:	2017/03/14 10:25:00

From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
To:	Armine M. Kourouyan <akourouy@usc.edu>; Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
CC:	Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c4fdb2a19ad4755a5a8932dbf993ff4-Smith, Apri>
Subject:	RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style
Date:	2017/03/13 16:25:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Armine and Kate,

Any update on the venue?

Also, can you give me hotel recommendations or the general vicinity of where I should look? I'll probably fly in on April 19 and out on the 20th. It'll be a quick trip ☺

Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [mailto:akourouy@usc.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 4:54 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

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Thanks,
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Armine Kourouyan, MPH
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p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 11:12 AM

To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Armine and Kate,

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<https://www.facebook.com/lakenonainstitute/videos/724603937717670/>

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Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 4:21 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

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Best regards,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
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From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 6:14 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>, "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

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information in the two resource links support these angles. Please let me know if all this is helpful and if you need anything else.

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Some other angles to consider:

1) Women as parents and caregivers: An obvious hook here would be the increase in women using during pregnancy and the rise in neonatal abstinence syndrome, but there are other angles here. For example, women with children have a lot of challenges getting treatment and other resources because they are often not family friendly. There is also the fact that women often bear responsibility for family members with substance use disorders, because of their role as the health care gatekeeper for the family.

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Senior Advisor

Division of Strategic Communications



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Office on Women’s Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

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I'm available to discuss further:
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Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

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Armine,

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Can you look at the attached invitation for the SG to come to the April event and correct and fill in the blanks? I have several question marks, etc.

Thanks!

Valerie Borden

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Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 4:14 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb

Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)

Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Great, just keep us posted on his date in LA and we'll pitch a briefing to a couple of shows. We'll definitely ask Grey's Anatomy since I'm sure they'd be interested in speaking with him in depth.

As for the event, we are looking at either April 19th or 20th. It'll be at the Writers Guild of America, West in Los Angeles. We will be holding a board meeting that evening, and since our board is comprised of network executives and showrunners, we thought it would be great to have the SG be a featured speaker at the meeting for a more intimate event, with possibly a few other handpicked guests as well. It'd be great to have the opioid survivor speak as well (I just need her full name, email and phone to add her to our database).

I'm in the process of checking availability for those dates so I'll let you know as soon as I have more info.

Please let me know if you have any other questions in the meantime.

Best,
Armine

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From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Date: Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 11:56 AM

To: Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>, "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Kate and Armine,

The SG's office just let me know that they are currently finalizing his LA schedule. The back- up date for Feb 21st is March 14th. I'll keep you posted on the date so you can set up some meetings.

Also I was told to submit a request for the April Opioids event which is a good sign! Can you tell me if the event is still scheduled for April and any other details so I can put into the SG's invite request? I'll need the subject, location, other invited speakers, etc.

Thanks. Valerie

From: Kate Langrall Folb [<mailto:langrall@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 12:51 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Armine M. Kourouyan
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,
Happy New Year!

Sorry for the late response but we were closed over the holidays.

Unfortunately, we have another event scheduled for Feb. 22 that we cannot change. However, if the SG would have some time on the 21st, we would love to pitch him to meet one-on-one with a show or two. Do you have any idea when/if the SG will change? How shall we proceed in working with the current SG for the 21st?

Armine will connect with you regarding the opioid survivor.

Kate

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, December 23, 2016 at 8:29 AM
To: Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>, "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Kate and Armine,

I wanted to let you that the Surgeon General will be in Los Angeles on Feb 21. We had hoped to have him participate in the West Coast writers guild event currently scheduled for April (I believe). Since we don't know how long he will stay in his position under the new administration is it possible to hold it in February instead since he will be in LA?

Also I have been in touch with the opioid survivor advocate who was on a panel with the SG at our Opioids meeting. She is willing to participate in the LA event as well as be listed as a SME resource in your database. What do you need from her to get into your database?

Wishing you both happy holidays!

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor

Division of Strategic Communications



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Sender:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
Recipient:	Armine M. Kourouyan <akourouy@usc.edu>; Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>; Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c4fdb2a19ad4755a5a8932dbf993ff4-Smith, Apri>
Sent Date:	2017/03/13 16:25:05
Delivered Date:	2017/03/13 16:25:00

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Subject:	RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style
Date:	2017/03/07 14:12:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Armine and Kate,

I've spoken with the SG's staff and they told me that in terms of presentations he prefers a Q & A fireside chat format. See the example from the at Lake Nona Impact Forum:

<https://www.facebook.com/lakenonainstitute/videos/724603937717670/>

Is it possible to incorporate this format in the April 19 event? Also have you been able to find a larger room? I know you were concerned that the Children's Hospital room would not be large enough.

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [mailto:akourouy@usc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 4:21 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

This is great – thanks Valerie. We will look over the information and determine the best angles to use. Once we have a draft tip sheet developed, we'll send it over to you for approval.

Best regards,
Armine

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From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 6:14 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>, "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)"

<Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I'm not entirely sure how you create the tip sheets. I have included links to two resources in this email that give a lot of detail about opioid use, misuse, treatment and prevention. However, I've also included some angles below that may appeal more to the writers/producers than a fact sheet with data. The information in the two resource links support these angles. Please let me know if all this is helpful and if you need anything else.

The easiest thing is to focus on the increases in women as compared to men, although some of the newest data out of CDC is showing a leveling off in this area (some of the new data is in the HHS/OWH white paper, some came out after it was done). <https://www.womenshealth.gov/publications/federal-report/index.html#a2016>

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Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 4:14 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Great, just keep us posted on his date in LA and we'll pitch a briefing to a couple of shows. We'll definitely ask Grey's Anatomy since I'm sure they'd be interested in speaking with him in depth.

As for the event, we are looking at either April 19th or 20th. It'll be at the Writers Guild of America, West in Los Angeles. We will be holding a board meeting that evening, and since our board is comprised of network executives and showrunners, we thought it would be great to have the SG be a featured speaker at the meeting for a more intimate event, with possibly a few other handpicked guests as well. It'd be great to have the opioid survivor speak as well (I just need her full name, email and phone to add her to our database).

I'm in the process of checking availability for those dates so I'll let you know as soon as I have more info.

Please let me know if you have any other questions in the meantime.

Best,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH

Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center
8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 11:56 AM
To: Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>, "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Kate and Armine,

The SG's office just let me know that they are currently finalizing his LA schedule. The back-up date for Feb 21st is March 14th. I'll keep you posted on the date so you can set up some meetings.

Also I was told to submit a request for the April Opioids event which is a good sign! Can you tell me if the event is still scheduled for April and any other details so I can put into the SG's invite request? I'll need the subject, location, other invited speakers, etc.

Thanks. Valerie

From: Kate Langrall Folb [<mailto:langrall@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 12:51 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Armine M. Kourouyan
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,
Happy New Year!

Sorry for the late response but we were closed over the holidays.

Unfortunately, we have another event scheduled for Feb. 22 that we cannot change. However, if the SG would have some time on the 21st, we would love to pitch him to meet one-on-one with a show or two. Do you have any idea when/if the SG will change? How shall we proceed in working with the current SG for the 21st?

Armine will connect with you regarding the opioid survivor.

Kate

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, December 23, 2016 at 8:29 AM
To: Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>, "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Kate and Armine,

I wanted to let you that the Surgeon General will be in Los Angeles on Feb 21. We had hoped to have him participate in the West Coast writers guild event currently scheduled for April (I believe). Since we don't know how long he will stay in his position under the new administration is it possible to hold it in February instead since he will be in LA?

Also I have been in touch with the opioid survivor advocate who was on a panel with the SG at our Opioids meeting. She is willing to participate in the LA event as well as be listed as a SME resource in your database. What do you need from her to get into your database?

Wishing you both happy holidays!

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor

Division of Strategic Communications



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Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Valerie.borden@hhs.gov

Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-0270

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

Sender:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
Recipient:	Armine M. Kourouyan <akourouy@usc.edu>; Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>; Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c4fdb2a19ad4755a5a8932dbf993ff4-Smith, Apri>
Sent Date:	2017/03/07 14:12:58
Delivered Date:	2017/03/07 14:12:00

From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
To:	Armine M. Kourouyan <akourouy@usc.edu>; Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
CC:	Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c4fdb2a19ad4755a5a8932dbf993ff4-Smith, Apri>
Subject:	RE: Surgeon General in LA in February
Date:	2017/02/23 10:04:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Sounds great. Thanks. I'm still waiting on confirmation from Dr. Keisha Downey.

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [mailto:akourouy@usc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 4:21 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

This is great – thanks Valerie. We will look over the information and determine the best angles to use. Once we have a draft tip sheet developed, we'll send it over to you for approval.

Best regards,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
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8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 6:14 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>, "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I'm not entirely sure how you create the tip sheets. I have included links to two resources in this email that give a lot of detail about opioid use, misuse, treatment and prevention. However, I've also included some angles below that may appeal more to the writers/producers than a fact sheet with data. The information in the two resource links support these angles. Please let me know if all this is helpful and if you need anything else.

The easiest thing is to focus on the increases in women as compared to men, although some of the newest data out of CDC is showing a leveling off in this area (some of the new data is in the HHS/OWH white paper, some came out after it was done). <https://www.womenshealth.gov/publications/federal-report/index.html#a2016>

Some other angles to consider:

- 1) Women as parents and caregivers: An obvious hook here would be the increase in women using during pregnancy and the rise in neonatal abstinence syndrome, but there are other angles here. For example, women with children have a lot of challenges getting treatment and other resources because they are often not family friendly. There is also the fact that women often bear responsibility for family members with substance use disorders, because of their role as the health care gatekeeper for the family.
- 2) The dramatic increase in overdoses as a result of fentanyl and other synthetics: While there is not a significant gender disparity here, this is a huge issue that is only going to get worse. One angle is the fact that people are unknowingly buying and using fentanyl because dealers are mixing it with other drugs and not telling their customers (fentanyl is cheaper than other opioids, but also far more deadly in small doses).
- 3) Naloxone and Good Samaritan laws: This is a good news story – the fact that the increasingly availability of naloxone has cut down the number of fatal overdoses. However, there has been at least one study that has suggested that women are less likely to get naloxone (especially older women) because they do not fit the typical “addict” profile and first responders don’t initially recognize that they have overdosed.

In addition to the white paper provided above, another good resource is the CDC grand rounds session: (<https://www.cdc.gov/cdcgrandrounds/archives/2017/january2017.htm>).

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor

Division of Strategic Communications



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Office on Women's Health

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OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 3:13 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,
In preparation for the April event, we wanted to get started on drafting a tip sheet on opioids. Is there a particular topic or direction you'd like us to focus on for the tip sheet?

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center
8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at 1:07 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I have two potential people for the panel. Let me know what you think.

Dr. Keisha Downey – she has worked in the LA area doing addiction counseling.

Cortney Lovell is a recovery coach, addictions counselor, and national advocate.

I do plan to come to the event as will my supervisor, Jennifer Bishop Crawford. What time of day do you plan to hold the event?

I'm available to discuss further:
Thurs, between 2:30-5

Fri, Between 2:30-5

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2017 5:09 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Yes we are confirmed for April 19th. I'm still waiting to nail down a conference space at Children's Hospital, which is likely to happen, but if for some odd reason it doesn't work we'll find another venue for that date.

Also, I believe you had some "real people" that would be willing to share their personal stories at the panel. We'd like to invite one or two storytellers to give their personal account of opioids addiction/recovery. If you have anyone to recommend that would be great. Will you be joining for the event as well?

Just let me know some dates/times you are available for a call and we can discuss further details.

Best regards,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center
8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 7:36 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I'm checking in again on the date. The SG is planning on the 19th so I hope that date will work. Can we set up a call to go over the details?

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 1:31 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Of course. Will try to confirm that date asap.

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
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8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, January 27, 2017 at 2:05 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I've been told that the SG is available on April 19 so can you please try to make that date work if possible?

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 4:55 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,
We had to look into a venue change because we learned that the WGAW venue is unavailable for events through June due to internal negotiations. We are considering a conference room space at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. I'm checking availability for that week of April 17th. I'll let you know the options as soon as possible.

Great blog. We'll definitely share it through our social media as well.

Best,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center
8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 12:18 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Armine and Kate,

Do you have a confirmed date yet for the Writer's Guild West event in April? It looks like the SG will still be with us so the sooner I get an exact date the greater the chances he can attend. I'd also like to get started on reaching out to the other speakers. I have given the tentative dates to the survivor, Cortney Lovell. And just today we posted a blog by her on our website:
<https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog/the-power-of-women-and-recovery.html>

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 2:59 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,
Please see the attached form. Let me know if you need anything else. A few spots are guestimates for now (audience size) but a good ballpark to start with.

Thanks,
Armine

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From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Thursday, January 5, 2017 at 8:21 AM

To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Armine,

I will keep you posted on the SG's LA date for Jan or March.

Can you look at the attached invitation for the SG to come to the April event and correct and fill in the blanks? I have several question marks, etc.

Thanks!

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 4:14 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Great, just keep us posted on his date in LA and we'll pitch a briefing to a couple of shows. We'll definitely ask Grey's Anatomy since I'm sure they'd be interested in speaking with him in depth.

As for the event, we are looking at either April 19th or 20th. It'll be at the Writers Guild of America, West in Los Angeles. We will be holding a board meeting that evening, and since our board is comprised of network executives and showrunners, we thought it would be great to have the SG be a featured speaker at the meeting for a more intimate event, with possibly a few other handpicked guests as well. It'd be great to have the opioid survivor speak as well (I just need her full name, email and phone to add her to our database).

I'm in the process of checking availability for those dates so I'll let you know as soon as I have more info.

Please let me know if you have any other questions in the meantime.

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Date: Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 11:56 AM
To: Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>, "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
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Hi Kate and Armine,

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Also I was told to submit a request for the April Opioids event which is a good sign! Can you tell me if the event is still scheduled for April and any other details so I can put into the SG's invite request? I'll need the subject, location, other invited speakers, etc.

Thanks. Valerie

From: Kate Langrall Folb [<mailto:langrall@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 12:51 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Armine M. Kourouyan
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,
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Armine will connect with you regarding the opioid survivor.

Kate

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, December 23, 2016 at 8:29 AM
To: Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>, "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Kate and Armine,

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Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor

Division of Strategic Communications



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Recipient:	Armine M. Kourouyan <akourouy@usc.edu>; Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>; Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c4fdb2a19ad4755a5a8932dbf993ff4-Smith, Apri>
Sent Date:	2017/02/23 10:04:32
Delivered Date:	2017/02/23 10:04:00

From:	OA Action Alliance <oaaction@unc.edu>
SentVia:	OA Action Alliance <oaaction=unc.edu@mail125.sea31.mcsv.net>
To:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	[MARKETING EMAIL]Biweekly Digest: July is National Park and Recreation Month!
Date:	2017/06/30 13:08:31
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Your resource for all things osteoarthritis

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The Osteoarthritis Action Alliance Biweekly Digest, Volume 3, Issue 12

In this issue

- • Osteoarthritis Action Alliance News
- • Events (Conferences, webinars, trainings)
- • Opportunities (Jobs, Internships, Fellowships, Funding)
- • Osteoarthritis in the News
- • Policy, Resources & Reports

Featured this week:

Get Ready for National Park and Recreation Month July 2017

For people with osteoarthritis, staying active is the best form of medicine. Keeping joints moving can reduce pain, strengthen your muscles, and improve joint function so you can do more of the things you love! But, even knowing that exercise is something you *should* do, it's often difficult to get motivated to move. This is why we're so excited to support our member, the [National Recreation and Park Association](#), to help you "get your play on" this July during Park and Recreation Month! By keeping active with activities you love - whether it's a Zumba class in the park, a walk on a trail, or an adult sports league- will make your time to exercise fly by!

How do I participate this month?

- Check out NRPA's Webinar: ["How to make the most out of Park and Recreation Month"](#)
- Share NRPA's [infographic](#) and [poster](#) on social media and hang them up in your facilities. Advertise July events as National Park and Recreation month events
- Shout out on social media about what getting your play in means to you! For us, we're all about playing our way to better-functioning joints! [Use the NRPA's toolkit for more ideas.](#)
- Take a [Walk in the Park](#) - NRPA has teamed up with [Walk With a Doc](#) (WWAD) to promote healthy living and encourage participation in WWAD and [Walk With Ease](#), the Arthritis Foundation's proven arthritis intervention program. A Walk in the Park is happening in 10 cities (including OAAA home, [Chapel Hill!](#)) - [is your city on the list?](#) If so, join a walk!

And most importantly...get out and move in your local park and recreation facilities this month!



Osteoarthritis Action Alliance News

- Come and Walk With A Doc at UNC Wellness Center- Meadowmont, 100 Sprunt Street, Chapel Hill. Rain or shine. **Saturday, July 15, 10AM** with Dr. Amanda Nelson from the Thurston Arthritis Research Center in Chapel Hill, NC!
- We've updated our YouTube channel! Check us out, and subscribe!
- Connect with our new LinkedIn company page! Follow us to receive updates about the Alliance's activities.

Events

Workshops, Webinars, and Twitter Chats

- **COMING UP!** Lunch and Learn webinar with Mary Altpeter and Serena Weisner- OAAA WWE Mini-Grant Program Information. Wed, July 19 at 12 PM ET. Register today!

- **NEW!** [Webinar: Celebrating 20 Years of Making America A Great Place to Walk \(America Walks\)](#), Wed, July 26 at 11 AM ET

Conferences

Save the Date/Register

- [2017 National Walking Summit](#) St. Paul, MN, September 13-15, 2017. **REGISTER NOW!**
- [Overcoming Obesity 2017](#), from the Obesity Medicine Association. San Antonio, TX, September 13-17, 2017
- [National Recreation and Parks Association Annual Conference](#). September 26-28, 2017, New Orleans, LA
- [International Council on Active Aging Conference](#), Orlando, FL, October 12-14, 2017
[Register early by June 5!](#)
- [Obesity Week](#), October 31- Nov 2, 2017, Washington, DC. **REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!**
- [American Public Health Association](#), November 4-8, 2017, Atlanta, GA
- [American College of Rheumatology](#), November 3-8, 2017, San Diego, CA.
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!
- [Movement is Life Caucus](#), November 9-10, 2017, Washington, D.C.

Opportunities

- [Job Opening at the Arthritis Foundation for the *Director of Osteoarthritis Programs*](#). Seeking experienced researchers with business and professional experience. Apply Online!

Abstract Deadlines

- [Movement is Life Caucus](#), November 9-10, 2017, Washington, D.C.; Abstract deadline: July 17

Funding

- [Self-Management Interventions and Technologies to Sustain Health and Optimize Functional Capabilities \(R01\)](#) - clinical research on self-management interventions and technologies that improve health and quality of life in persons needing assistance to optimize and maintain existing functional capabilities, prevent/delay disabilities and navigate their environment. Standard dates apply.

• [National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases - Research Innovations for Scientific Knowledge \(RISK\) for Musculoskeletal Diseases \(R61/R33\)](#) -

funding for disease-focused translational studies, up to, but not including, first in human

Osteoarthritis in the News

- • [Chili Peppers Contain Hot Substance That Serves As Clue To Treat Chronic Pain](#)
- • [Best ways to cope with hand pain](#)
- • [Turning your back on back surgery](#)
- • [Study reveals the body's systemic stem cell response to ACL injury](#)
- • [Six ways to help you battle arthritis AND ward off painful condition](#)
- • [FLEXIBLE FITNESS: Osteoarthritis and running](#)
- • [Study finds three knee pain subgroups of osteoarthritis](#)
- • [Is osteoarthritis hereditary?](#)
- • [Slow Medicine: When the Data Don't Match Your Experience](#)
- • [Does arthritis limit your mobility? We can help reduce your pain](#)
- • [Fluid in the knee holds clues for why osteoarthritis is more common in females](#)
- • [‘I see it as a chance to do other things, enjoy new experiences’](#)
- • [Knee-joint pain and osteoarthritis](#)

Policy

- • **NEW!** After release of a CBO score this week, the Senate has delayed a vote on the bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. Several of our members have advocacy action alerts or have released statements on this bill, including the [American Public Health Association](#) and the [National Council on Aging](#).
- • Medicaid serves 7 million low-income seniors and their families, including many who have osteoarthritis. The American Health Care Act, which was passed by House Republicans on May 4, 2017, would cut the Medicaid program by \$834 billion in 10 years. [Read the NCOA's issue brief opposing Medicaid cuts and caps.](#)

Resources & Reports

- [Walkable Communities are Healthy, Wealthy & Wise: A Fact Sheet from the Transit-Walkability Collaborative](#)

We to use this newsletter to share the latest Osteoarthritis Action Alliance news, and OA-related resources, publications, achievements, events, opportunities from or for our member organizations. Have something you would like to share with us? Please email us at oaaction@unc.edu and we will promote it on our Twitter and Facebook sites and in our upcoming Bi-Weekly digest.

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Subject:	[MARKETING EMAIL]Biweekly Digest: NEW infographic "Staying in the game is a 'joint' effort!"
Date:	2017/06/16 14:07:23
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Your resource for all things osteoarthritis

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The Osteoarthritis Action Alliance Biweekly Digest, Volume 3, Issue 12

In this issue

- • Osteoarthritis Action Alliance News
- • Events (Conferences, webinars, trainings)
- • Opportunities (Jobs, Internships, Fellowships, Funding)
- • Osteoarthritis in the News
- • Policy, Resources & Reports

Featured this week:

Reducing Knee Injury Risk with Neuromuscular Training - New Infographic from the OA Action Alliance

Staying injury free is one of the best ways to reduce your risk for osteoarthritis (OA). ***Individuals with a history of knee injury are 3-6 times more likely than those without knee injury to develop knee OA.*** Some people may think that staying injury-free is out of their control. Luckily, there are evidence-based strategies that can help prevent knee injury and reduce risk for knee OA.

Introducing ***Neuromuscular training programs*** for prevention of ACL injury is one strategy that can help reduce the incidence of knee injury. The Osteoarthritis Action Alliance Lower Limb Injury Prevention Task force developed an infographic to provide evidence-based recommendations on key components that should be included as part of a neuromuscular training program for prevention of major joint injury to the knee in youth athletes. These components are:

- • lower extremity and core strengthening
- • plyometric jump training
- • balance training
- • attention to participant compliance
- • minimal or no equipment needed
- • consistent feedback on proper technique
- • appropriate dosage: minimum of 15 sessions over 6 weeks (2-3x/week) for at least 15 minutes per session

IMPACT NUMBERS

OA affects approximately

30+ Million

U.S. adults.

INJURIES

Individuals with history of knee injury are

3-6x

more likely than those without history of knee injury to develop signs of OA.

DOWN THE LINE

Up to

50%

of individuals with an ACL injury will develop knee OA within 10-15 years.

KEEP ATHLETES ACTIVE

Neuromuscular training exercises can reduce the risk for ACL and other traumatic knee injuries by up to

80%

Endorsement of neuromuscular conditioning programs by health and safety organizations and sports governing bodies will help communities and schools recognize the need for broad implementation of neuromuscular training. Help spread the word by sharing our infographic on your

Osteoarthritis Action Alliance News

- • **TOMORROW!** Come and Walk With A Doc at UNC Wellness Center- Meadowmont, 100 Sprunt Street, Chapel Hill. Rain or shine. **Saturday, June 17, 10AM** with Dr. Amanda Nelson from the Thurston Arthritis Research Center in Chapel Hill, NC!
- • We've updated our Youtube channel! Check us out, and subscribe!
- • We have a LinkedIn page! Follow us to recieve updates about the Alliance's activities.

Events

Workshops, Webinars, and Twitter Chats

- • **COMING UP!** OAAA Lunch & Learn Webinar: Lower Limb Injury Prevention. June 21, 12pm ET.
- • **COMING UP!** Sanofi Webinar: Osteoarthritis of the Knee: Imaging and Examination. June 21, 2pm ET.

Conferences

Save the Date/Register

- National Athletic Trainers' Association Annual Meeting. June 26-29, 2017, Houston TX.
- 2017 National Walking Summit St. Paul, MN, September 13-15, 2017. **REGISTER NOW!**
- **NEW!** Overcoming Obesity 2017, from the Obesity Medicine Association. San Antonio, TX, September 13-17, 2017
- National Recreation and Parks Association Annual Conference. September 26-28, 2017, New Orleans, LA
- International Council on Active Aging Conference, Orlando, FL, October 12-14, 2017
Register early by June 5!
- Obesity Week, October 31- Nov 2, 2017, Washington, DC. **REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!**
- American Public Health Association, November 4-8, 2017, Atlanta, GA
- American College of Rheumatology, November 3-8, 2017, San Diego, CA.
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!
- Movement is Life Caucus, November 9-10, 2017, Washington, D.C.

Opportunities

- **NEW!** Proposals are now being accepted to present at the next Aging in America Conference, to be held in San Francisco, March 26-29, 2018. Proposal deadline: June 30, 2017.
- **NEW!** Job Opening at the Arthritis Foundation for the Director of Osteoarthritis Programs. Seeking experienced researchers with business and professional experience. Apply Online!

Abstract Deadlines

- **DEADLINE APPROACHING!** ACR/ARHP Annual Meeting call for abstracts. Meeting in San Diego, CA, Nov 3-8, 2017. Abstract deadline June 19.
- Movement is Life Caucus, November 9-10, 2017, Washington, D.C.; Abstract deadline: July 17

Funding

- Self-Management Interventions and Technologies to Sustain Health and Optimize Functional Capabilities (R01) - clinical research on self-management interventions and technologies that improve health and quality of life in persons needing assistance to optimize and maintain existing functional capabilities, prevent/delay disabilities and

Osteoarthritis in the News

- • [Fiber-rich diet helps in lowering risk of painful osteoarthritis: Study](#)
- • [Quadriceps Exercise Relieves Pain in Knee Osteoarthritis](#)
- • [With arthritis, movement is good medicine](#)
- • [Recreational running benefits hip and knee joint health](#)
- • [Jogging may reduce risk of hip and knee joint pain](#)
- • [Osteoarthritis numbers going up along with our weight: study](#)
- • [Opioid use before TKA causes less pain relief](#)
- • [Weight loss leads to lower cartilage degeneration in osteoarthritis](#)
- • [Physical therapy is safer than arthroscopy for degenerative knee pain](#)
- • [What are the best sports for osteoarthritis sufferers?](#)
- • [Can I play the piano with osteoarthritis?](#)
- • [Chondroitin for Knee OA: More Evidence](#)
- • [Spouses' daily responses to partners' pain linked with later functioning](#)
- • ['Cool' New Knee Procedure Eases Arthritis Pain Without Surgery](#)

Policy

- • **NEW!** Medicaid serves 7 million low income seniors and their families, including many who have osteoarthritis. The American Health Care Act, which was passed by House Republicans on May 4, 2017, would cut the Medicaid program by \$834 billion in 10 years. [Read the NCOA's issue brief opposing Medicaid cuts and caps.](#)

Resources & Reports

- • [Walkable Communities are Healthy, Wealthy & Wise A Fact Sheet from the Transit-](#)

Walkability Collaborative

We to use this newsletter to share the latest Osteoarthritis Action Alliance news, and OA-related resources, publications, achievements, events, opportunities from or for our member organizations. Have something you would like to share with us? Please email us at oaaction@unc.edu and we will promote it on our Twitter and Facebook sites and in our upcoming Bi-Weekly digest.

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Priority:	Normal
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HHS NEWS BRIEFING

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TO: THE SECRETARY AND SENIOR STAFF

DATE: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2018 7:30 AM EST

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- + [Former Director Warns About Cuts To CDC Funding.](#)
- + [Trump Criticized For Not Taking Action To Lower Drug Prices.](#)
- + [Healthcare Sector Added Fewer Jobs In January, Data Show.](#)
- + [Pennsylvania Hospital Loses Bid To Get Additional \\$5 Million In Medicare Reimbursement Dispute.](#)
- + [Idaho's Rule Allowing Insurers To Ignore ACA Poses Test For HHS' Azar.](#)

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- + [Widespread Flu Kills Scores Of Children As Season Progresses, CDC Officials Say.](#)
- + [CDC Says Director's Resignation Will Not Affect Flu Fight.](#)
- + [Flu Deaths Lurch To 51 In Georgia, With Peak Yet To Come.](#)
- + [Massachusetts Flu Activity On The Rise, Prompting Officials To Encourage Vaccination.](#)
- + [Maryland Seeking To Limit ER Visits As Hospitals Become Swamped With Flu Patients.](#)
- + [Florida Nurse's Complaints About "Cesspool" Of Flu Go Viral.](#)
- + [Anne Schuchat To Fill CDC Acting Director Role.](#)
- + [Improvements In Cancer Care Have Not Been Shared Equally With The Poor.](#)
- + [Gottlieb Lauded For Speeding Up Drug Approvals.](#)
- + [Opinion: A Federal Right-To-Try Law Would Undermine FDA Protections Without Giving Patients A Right To Access Experimental Drugs.](#)
- + [FDA Warns Some People Who Are Addicted To Opioids Are Abusing Loperamide.](#)
- + [Philip Morris Hoping FDA Approves Heat-Not-Burn Device.](#)
- + [Radiation From Cell Phones Unlikely To Cause Cancer, Studies Suggest.](#)
- + [NIH Releases New Resources For Determining Effectiveness Of Dietary Supplements.](#)
- + [This Year A Bad Year For Flu Virus.](#)
- + [Flu Vaccine Less Effective This Year Due In Part Of Egg-Based Manufacturing Process.](#)
- + [Researchers Worry New NIH Human Testing Rules Will Impact Research.](#)
- + [Gingrey: Short-Term Fixes Not Enough For Special Diabetes Program.](#)
- + [NIAA Offers Safety Tips For Super Bowl Activities.](#)
- + [ALA's Wimmer Says Broken Funding Process Endangers Americans' Health.](#)
- + [CMS Administrator Seema Verma Praises States Seeking To Add Medicaid Work](#)

Requirements In Op-Ed.

- + Former Head Of CMS' Innovation Center Interviewed.
- + CNBC Runs Internet Poll On Who Should Run Amazon, JP Morgan, Berkshire Hathaway Healthcare Consortium.
- + CMS Policy Would Change Next Generation Sequencing Payment.
- + Groups Sue HHS For Information On Blocking Abortions Sought By Undocumented Minors.

HEALTH REFORM:

- + Several States Considering Their Own Version Of The ACA's Individual Mandate.
- + Families Increasingly Enrolling In Healthcare Sharing Ministries As ACA Premiums Rise.
- + ACA Enrollment For 2018 May Outpace Previous Years', Data Indicate.
- + Experts Question Legality Of Idaho's Plan To Allow Policies Which Do Not Meet ACA Requirements.
- + California Officials Mulling Ways To Shore Up ACA.
- + Repeal Of ACA's Individual Mandate Could Cause Nebraska Premiums To Increase.
- + Consumers Advised About Possible Options If They Missed ACA Open Enrollment Period.
- + Few Real Estate Agencies Offer Health Insurance.
- + Commentary Considers Health Reform.

OPIOID NEWS:

- + Colleges Supplying Naloxone As Opioid Overdoses Rise.
- + North Carolina Joins PDMP Data Sharing Collective.
- + Maryland's Baltimore County To Vote Monday On Litigation Against Opioid Manufacturers.
- + Rural Arizona Police's Naloxone Training Program Expanded Statewide.
- + CHIME Hosts First Opioid Task Force Meeting.
- + Feature Spotlights Children In Foster Care Impacted By The Opioid Epidemic.
- + Opioid Crisis Also Harming Seniors.
- + Georgia's Candler County Sues Opioid Makers.
- + Virtual Reality Offers Potential In Treating Addiction, Researcher Says.
- + Ohio Law Enforcement Officials Hope For Action From Trump On Opioids.
- + Colorado Methadone Clinics Have Doubled In Three Years.
- + Physicians Concerned Florida Opioid Bills Are Too Restrictive.
- + About 600 Opioid Deaths On Long Island Projected For 2016.
- + West Virginia Officials See No Easy Solution Ahead For Opioid Crisis.
- + Arkansas' Sebastian County Faces Deepening Opioid Crisis.
- + Physicians In Southwest Colorado Reducing Opioid Prescriptions Amid Abuse Epidemic.
- + Pfizer Having Trouble Making Certain Prefilled Syringes Of Opioids Again.
- + Commentary Considers The Opioid Crisis.

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- + Philadelphia Facility Being Investigated For Medicaid Fraud.
- + Iowa Pharmacist Arrested For Allegedly Defrauding Medicaid.

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- + Senate Committee To Consider VA Choice Reforms.
- + Many Healthcare Stocks Fell Last Week.
- + Anthem's Policy Of Denying Coverage For Unnecessary ED Visits Now Extends To Six States.
- + DOJ Asks For More Information On Aetna-CVS Merger.
- + American Healthcare Primed For Disruption.
- + VA Reaches Agreement For In-Home Care For Veteran With ALS.
- + Rizzo: Politicians, Advocacy Groups Weigh In On Abortion Bill.
- + CEO Says Anti-Abortion Legislation Gained Steam In 2017.

HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

- + Aetna To Pay New York \$1.15 Million Civil Penalty Over Privacy Breach Of HIV Status.

HUMAN SERVICES NEWS:

- + GAO Report Finds Critical Gaps In Assisted Living Facility Oversight.
- + Antipsychotic Use In Nursing Homes Drops To Under 16 Percent, CMS Data Show.
- + Aging Baby Boomer Generation Prompts Concerns Over Caregiver Shortage.
- + Communication Officer Becoming "Lifeline" For Latinos In Montgomery County, Maryland.
- + Child Abuse Deaths Rise, HHS Report Says.
- + New Hampshire Senate OKs Bill To Preserve Child Abuse, Neglect Records For Seven Years.
- + Arizona Child Welfare Agency Adopts New Rules Aimed At Keeping Children In Homes.
- + Human Trafficking Cases Rise In Ohio, Report Says.
- + Stalled Healthcare Programs May Be Included In Next Government Funding Bill.
- + Liberals Hope To Provide Universal Home Care For Elderly, Disabled In Maine.
- + Immigration Policy May Affect Elder Care.

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- + No New Hepatitis A Cases Reported In Utah Following Restaurant Infection Confirmation.
- + Raw Meat-Based Pet Products May Put Pets, Owners At Risk, Study Suggests.

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- + Policy Statement Issued Highlighting Importance Of First 1,000 Days Of Nutrition In Children.

MEDICARE:

- + Reported Data In Open Payments Program May Be Inaccurate, Some Say.
- + Independent Physicians Favoring ACOs.

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- + WPost: Medicaid Work Requirements May Create An Opening For Compromise On Virginia Medicaid Expansion.
- + Kentucky's Medicaid Premiums Could Hinder Efforts To Roll Back Expansion.
- + West Virginia Holding Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Ban On Use Of Medicaid Funds For Nearly All Abortions.
- + State Senator Urges Virginia To Expand Medicaid.
- + Amerigroup To Begin Accepting Iowa Medicaid Patients Again In May.
- + Mississippi Lawmakers Lauded For Taking Steps To Reduce Medicaid Costs, Improve Quality.
- + Kansas Governor's "New Day" Carries Over Brownback's Policies.
- + Opinion: "Able-Bodied" Implies Taking Medicaid From Those Who "Don't Deserve It."
- + Opinion: Louisiana Should Impose Medicaid Work Requirements To Solve Budget Shortfall.
- + Analysis: Arkansas Lawmaker's Guilty Plea Could Impact Medicaid Reauthorization.
- + Arkansas Pharmacists Urge Legislators To Solve Lower Reimbursement Changes.
- + North Carolina Lawmakers Slow To Expand Medicaid, Even With Work Requirement Approval.

HEALTH & MEDICAL NEWS:

- + Flu Season Could Cost Businesses \$15.4 Billion In Lost Productivity, Analysis Suggests.
- + Sen. Markey Calls For \$1 Billion Investment To Develop Universal Flu Vaccine.
- + Flu Pandemic In 1918 Exacerbated By World War I.
- + Kentucky Records 100 Flu-Related Deaths.
- + Ohio Officials Say There Have Been 8,600 Hospitalizations For Flu.
- + Connecticut's Flu Deaths Rise To 52 After 20 Die In One Week.
- + Alabama Health Officials Investigating Flu-Related Deaths.
- + South Carolina Counts Twice The Number Of Flu Deaths In One Week.
- + California's Flu Deaths Rise To 127 But Season Is Slowing, Officials Say.
- + Flu Continues To Strike Pennsylvania, New Jersey.
- + People Seek Flu Testing At Pharmacies As 42 States See "High" Flu Activity.
- + Researchers Seek College Students' Help In Pinpointing Flu Spread On Campuses.
- + Hospitals Face Clinical, Financial Challenges Of Severe Flu Season.
- + Flu May Be Spread By Infected Person's Breathing, Study Suggests.
- + Experts Consider Wisdom Of Replacing Hand Shakes With A Liberian "Elbow Bump" During

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- + Healthcare In US Virgin Islands Remains In A Critical State.
- + Accumulation Of Tau Protein In Woodpeckers' Brains Resembles That Found In Athletes Who Have Suffered Head Trauma, Study Suggests.
- + NPR Interviews Cancer Patient Who Is Opposed To "Right-To-Try" Bill.
- + Bill Would Make New Jersey First State To Ban Menthol Cigarettes.
- + Federal Policy Affects Physicians' Participation In Medical Marijuana Programs.
- + Children In Daycare May Not Learn About Sun Safety, Study Suggests.
- + Columnist: Pharmaceutical Investors Are Too Focused On Tax Rates Right Now.
- + AstraZeneca Beats Expectations In Revenue And Earnings Per Share.
- + Merck's Earnings Beat Estimates Because Of Lower Taxes That Made Up For Lower Sales.
- + Right-To-Try Is A Controversial Idea In Healthcare.
- + Sen. Johnson Urges House To Pass Right-To-Try Bill.
- + Many Hospitals Establishing Specialized EDs For Elderly Patients.
- + Dogs More Likely To Bite People Who Are Feeling Anxious, Study Suggests.
- + House Subcommittee Endorses Proposal To Provide Health Plans With Prescription Drug Data Before Regulatory Approval.
- + Safety Concerns With Sanofi's Dengue Vaccine Casting Doubt Onto Other Vaccines In Development.
- + Google's DeepMind Develops AI Diagnostic For Eye Diseases.
- + CDC: Despite Reductions in Smoking Rate, 38 Million People Still Smoke In US.
- + Alcohol May Help Brain Clean Itself Out, Mouse Study Suggests.
- + Tennessee Among 11 States Confirming First Human Infections Of Rat Virus.
- + Texas Scientists To Test Theory That Exercise Can Prevent Alzheimer's.
- + Parents Need To Discuss Tattoo Safety With Their Kids, Nurse Says.
- + Experts Urging Facebook To Shut Down Messenger Kids App.
- + Methylphenidate Treatment In Children With AD/HD May Improve Academic Productivity More Than Accuracy, Meta-Analysis Suggests.
- + Ketamine Offering Hope To People Suffering From Depression, Suicidal Thoughts.
- + Cancer Immunotherapy Remissions Can Be Robust, Study Says.
- + Coffee In California May Soon Come With Cancer Warnings.
- + Study Suggests Going Outside May Alter Brain Activity.
- + Editorial: Lack Of Oversight Enabled Risky Study On Synthetic Horsepox Vaccine.
- + Columnist Says Internet Perpetuates Health Anxiety.
- + Coffee Considered Mostly Beneficial, Analyses Indicate.
- + Researchers Focusing On Importance Of Infants' Exposure To Microorganisms.
- + More Teens Identify As Transgender Than Previously Thought, Study Suggests.
- + Idaho School District Reports Outbreak Of Whooping Cough.
- + Training Program Aims To Prevent Sexual Assault At Minnesota High Schools.

GLOBAL HEALTH:

- + Gates, Gawande Push Healthcare Solutions In Developing Nations To Combat Child Mortality, Improve Vaccination Rates.
- + "Modicare" To Cost About \$1.7B Annually, Sources Say.
- + Mobile Cervical Cancer Clinic Brings Resources To Rural Communities.
- + Mobile App Maps Help Condom Dispensaries In Philippines To Combat HIV.
- + Sanofi Will Not Refund Philippines For Used Dengue Vaccine.

NATIONAL NEWS:

- + Intel Committee Republicans: Russia Probe To Continue Despite Memo Findings.
- + In Pre-Super Bowl Statement, Trump Said "We Proudly Stand" For Anthem.
- + WTimes Analysis: Trump's Speech Pushed Popular Goals Stuck In Congress.
- + GOP Optimistic After Uptick In Recent Midterm Election Polling.
- + NYTimes Analysis: Powell Comes To Fed With Economy Showing "Signs Of Strain."
- + Payday Lenders To Mark Good Year With Event At Trump Golf Club.
- + Administration Proposal Would Give Employers More Control Over Tips.

- + C-SPAN Caller Denounced Trump As "Traitor" During Gorka Appearance.
- + Kimmel: Talk Show Hosts Are Liberal Because "It Requires A Level Of Intelligence."
- + WPost Analysis: Stays Of Gerrymandering Decisions Delay Election Impact.
- + WPost A1 Analysis: California Poised To Shift Even Farther Leftward.
- + Republican Gubernatorial Challenger's Ad In Illinois Sparks Outrage.
- + Holocaust Denier Runs Unopposed In Illinois GOP Congressional Primary.
- + NYTimes Analysis: Lack Of "Obvious Quid Pro Quo" Hindered Case Against Menendez.
- + Proposed Welfare Limits In Wisconsin Could Cost More Than \$90M A Year.
- + Two Dead In South Carolina Amtrak Crash.
- + Uma Thurman Accuses Weinstein Of Sexual Misconduct.
- + PEN America's Rottman: DC's Riot Act Should Be Amended.
- + Author, Professor: Technology Will Make "Hacking" Elections Easier.
- + Law Professor: #MeToo Movement Has Accomplished What Law Could Not.
- + NYTimes Criticizes Trump's "Shallow" And "Dishonest" Energy Policy.
- + WSJournal Criticizes Illinois' Proposed Pension Bonds.
- + NYTimes: Cuomo And De Blasio Must Work Together To Fix Subway.

EDITORIAL WRAP-UP:

- + New York Times.
- + Washington Post.
- + Wall Street Journal.

THE BIG PICTURE:

- + Headlines From Today's Front Pages.

LAST LAUGHS:

- + Late Night Political Humor.

Leading the News:

HHS APPROVES INDIANA'S WAIVER FOR MEDICAID WORK REQUIREMENTS. The [Washington Post](#) (2/2, Goldstein, 14.56M) reported on Friday, HHS approved Indiana's request to impose work requirements, study or public service on certain Medicaid recipients. Indiana was the second state to receive such approval. The article added that HHS Secretary Alex Azar traveled to Indiana to join Gov. Eric Holcomb (R) in making the announcement. Azar said this "announcement is just one step in a long legacy of innovation" in Indiana's healthcare system, and that it is an indication "Medicaid can be a pathway out of poverty."

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/2, Armour, Subscription Publication, 6.29M) reported that this was Azar's first major health policy decision since he was sworn in on Monday, and it indicates HHS will continue to approve states' requests to impose Medicaid work requirements. Azar said that work can imbue people with a "sense of purpose." He added, "Work is a key component of well-being."

[Politico](#) (2/2, Cancryn, 2.44M) reported that Indiana's "waiver builds on the conservative Medicaid expansion model pioneered in 2015 by then-Gov. Mike Pence, and developed by CMS Administrator Seema Verma, who was then a consultant." The change requires that "able-bodied individuals under 60 years old...work at least 20 hours a week on average, be enrolled in school, or participate in the state's job training and search program." Recipients who fail to meet these "standards will be suspended from the program until they can comply with the requirements for a full month." Those who are pregnant, who are primary caregivers, or who are medically frail would be exempt from the requirements.

[The Hill](#) (2/2, Weixel, 2M) reported that the "requirements are a controversial move and were never approved by the Obama administration." CMS insists "there is ample evidence that work requirements will help people lead healthier lifestyles." The article said critics "slammed" the

move, saying that it will cause many to lose healthcare coverage. For instance, Brad Woodhouse, campaign director of the advocacy group Protect Our Care, stated, "Secretary Azar is escalating the Republican war on health care and its effort to demolish Medicaid from the inside out."

The [Washington Times](#) (2/2, Howell, 327K) reported that almost one-third of Indiana's Medicaid recipients would be required to work under the changes. The article added, "Democrats are furious, saying the changes and its reporting requirements will knock people out of coverage." The piece said Kentucky was the first state to receive HHS' approval for Medicaid requirements, and already, a lawsuit "alleging the waiver flouts the objectives of Medicaid law" has been filed on behalf of 15 recipients.

On its website, [CNN Money](#) (2/2, Luhby, 3.59M) reported that "three groups are suing the administration seeking to stop...approvals" of Medicaid work requirements. The article added that Indiana's "waiver builds upon a dramatic overhaul of its Medicaid program under then-Governor Pence in 2015, which brought more than 400,000 people into the system."

The [Indianapolis Star](#) (2/2, Rudavsky, 486K) reported that although "research supports that employed people are healthier than those who are not, it's not clear that working leads to health," said Adam Mueller, advocacy director for Indiana Legal Services." The article added that the group "will evaluate the waiver and decide whether to challenge it in court, Mueller said."

Also covering the story were [Reuters](#) (2/2, Erman), the [Washington Examiner](#) (2/2, King, 435K), [Modern Healthcare](#) (2/2, Dickson, Subscription Publication, 226K), [Kaiser Health News](#) (2/2, Galewitz), the [Times of Northwest Indiana](#) (2/2, Carden, 254K), [WISH-TV](#) Indianapolis (2/2, Williams, 92K), the [Indianapolis Business Journal](#) (2/2, 37K), [WIBC-FM](#) Indianapolis (2/2, Berman, 7K), [WTHR-TV](#) Indianapolis (2/2, 118K), the [Fort Wayne \(IN\) Journal-Gazette](#) (2/3, Kelly, 172K), and [WTTV-TV](#) Indianapolis (2/2).

The Secretary in the News:

AZAR DEALING WITH CRITICISM OF HHS FROM HOUSE GOP LAWMAKER. In the [Washington Post](#) (2/2, 14.56M) "The Health 202" blog, Paige Winfield Cunningham wrote, "A scathing letter from a member of his own party awaited Alex Azar as he became Health and Human Services secretary this week, one of many piled-up tasks he faces at an agency that has lacked a leader for the past four months." Cunningham added that for months, HHS has been falling "short of its duties to comply with document and information requests from Congress, House Oversight Chairman Trey Gowdy (R-S.C.) wrote to Azar." Gowdy also criticized HHS for displaying "a pattern of 'nonresponsiveness and wanton disregard' for the committee's responsibility to oversee the executive branch."

FORMER DIRECTOR WARNS ABOUT CUTS TO CDC FUNDING. On [CNN Newsroom Saturday](#) (2/3), former CDC Director Thomas Frieden was asked about a coalition of health groups which wrote to HHS Secretary Alex Azar because the CDC has undergone several funding cuts recently. The groups contend that the US "is actually going to be hurt by these cuts, even though they have to do with other countries." Frieden said the CDC "is essential to the safety of Americans, and unless the Administration and Congress get their act together and fund ongoing programs that protect Americans, we will be less safe." He added, "What's happening is that a program that Congress authorized five years ago will be coming to an end over the next year. That program stops dangerous organisms overseas so we don't have to fight them here." Frieden warned that cutting funding "would pull the rug out from under programs that are helping to ensure that we have a safer world."

CDC To Cut Global Epidemic Prevention Programs By 80%. [The Hill](#) (2/2, Thomsen, 2M) reported the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is rolling back its epidemic prevention programs in 39 out of 49 countries due to a lack of funding. Starting in October 2019, the CDC will only focus on 10 "priority countries," which include India, Thailand, Vietnam, Jordan, Kenya,

Uganda, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal, and Guatemala. Countries that will see scaled-back efforts include Congo, Haiti, Rwanda, and China, "all nations that are considered hot spots for potential epidemics."

[CNN](#) (2/3, Drash, 28.59M) reported that former CDC Director Dr. Tom Frieden said the decision "could post a grave danger to the United States" because it would "significantly increase the chance an epidemic will spread without our knowledge and endanger lives in our country and around the world."

TRUMP CRITICIZED FOR NOT TAKING ACTION TO LOWER DRUG PRICES. Bronwyn Mixer wrote in a [Bloomberg BNA](#) (2/2, 3K) blog that during his State of the Union address, President Trump said "he wants to lower prescription drug prices, but critics said they've heard similar comments before that didn't translate into action." Mixer said that according to Michael Carome, director of Public Citizen's Health Research Group, Trump has "taken actions that suggest he really has no interest in seeing drug prices lowered and is more interested in benefiting industry and their lobbyists." Carome added, "He opened the revolving door between the pharmaceutical industry and government by appointing a secretary of health and human services, Alex Azar, and a commissioner of the FDA [Scott Gottlieb] who came directly from industry."

HEALTHCARE SECTOR ADDED FEWER JOBS IN JANUARY, DATA SHOW. [Modern Healthcare](#) (2/2, Castellucci, Subscription Publication, 226K) reported that although the healthcare sector "added 20,600 jobs in the first month of 2018...that represents a steep 37% drop from the 32,800 jobs gained in the industry in December." The article said employment in healthcare for the rest of this "year will likely remain stable" if the Affordable Care Act remains the law of the land, "and the aging population continues to grow," one expert said. Meanwhile, "healthcare leaders will be on the outlook for any new regulations made by the new HHS Secretary Alex Azar this year that might impact bottom lines, he added."

PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL LOSES BID TO GET ADDITIONAL \$5 MILLION IN MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT DISPUTE. The [Harrisburg \(PA\) Patriot-News](#) (2/2, Beauge, 464K) reported that Williamsport Regional Medical lost its case to receive an additional \$5 million in Medicare reimbursement when the federal court dismissed its lawsuit Thursday. The Pennsylvania hospital sued CMS, Patrick Conway, HHS Secretary Alex Azar, the Medicare Geographic Classification Review board, and its chairman Robert Eaton. The hospital filed the lawsuit after "its request to be reclassified from the State College to the Bloomsburg-Berwick core-based statistical area was denied."

IDAHO'S RULE ALLOWING INSURERS TO IGNORE ACA POSES TEST FOR HHS' AZAR. [Kaiser Health News](#) (2/4, Appleby) examines Idaho's decision to permit health insurers to "ignore some ACA rules on plans not sold on the marketplace, aiming to make these state-based plans less costly." Such plans, for instance, might remove "some of the ACA's protections for preexisting conditions and its limits on how much more insurers can charge older or sick people." One expert said the state is "banking on...the Trump administration [not enforcing] the ACA"; however, many think the rule will be challenged in the courts. Kaiser Health observes that "this could be one of the first tests for new Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar."

HHS in the News:

WIDESPREAD FLU KILLS SCORES OF CHILDREN AS SEASON PROGRESSES, CDC OFFICIALS SAY. On its website, [CBS News](#) (2/3, Begnaud, 4.63M) reported that the flu epidemic has led to the deaths of 53 children so far. As CDC acting director Dr. Anne Schuchat explained, "We're seeing deaths increase in children and in adults. ... So it's proving to be a very difficult season." CBS pointed to the H3N2 strain of the flu, which is predominant this season and generally leads to "more cases, hospitalizations and death." The piece added that a recent study from Canada "found the vaccine has only been 17 percent effective against that strain of the flu."

[CBS News](#) (2/2, 4.63M) separately reported that in the last week, officials counted the deaths of 16 children as states count higher levels of the flu. Dr. Schuchat said, "Hospitalizations are now the highest we've seen," adding that the flu is one of the most significant threats currently facing the US. She warned that the flu "can be followed by a bacterial infection like pneumonia," and "stressed that the CDC continues to recommend people get flu shots."

The [Washington Post](#) (2/2, Sun, 14.56M) reported the level of flu activity is widespread across the nation, "and over the past week, the rate of patients seeking care for flulike symptoms again rose sharply – nearing rates seen during the swine-flu pandemic in 2009." Dr. Schuchat explained that while there may be some indication that the flu could be peaking on the West Coast, she added that "we are by no means out of the woods."

[CNN](#) (2/2, Scutti, 28.59M) reported on its website that according to CDC spokeswoman Kristen Nordlund, "We have not hit our peak yet, unfortunately. ... Really, the bottom line is, there is still likely many more weeks to go." Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said that this may be because of the H3N2 strains in circulation, typically known as "bad actors" that lead to more complications and deaths. FDA Commissioner Dr. Scott Gottlieb also is quoted as saying that while some regions are experiencing a shortage of some antivirals and flu tests, "at this time, there is no nationwide shortage of these products."

The [New York Times](#) (2/2, A1, McNeil, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) reported on the strain the high number of patients affected this season has placed on hospitals. The piece included a quote from one epidemiologist who quipped about Dr. Fauci, "Tell Tony Fauci to stop saying we need a universal flu vaccine and just do it. ... We need a Kennedy-esque go-to-the-moon project."

[NPR](#) (2/2, Harris, 2.4M) said Dr. Schuchat added that nearly half of the children who died this flu season "apparently had been healthy and had no special vulnerability to this viral disease." Dr. Dan Jernigan, director of the CDC's influenza division, explained that only about 20 percent of the children who died had been vaccinated.

[USA Today](#) (2/2, Painter, 7.88M) reported Drs. Schuchat and Jernigan said that it is too early to tell how many deaths the flu will cause this season.

Also reporting are [Reuters](#) (2/2, Beasley), the [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/2, McKay, Toy, Subscription Publication, 6.29M), the [Washington Times](#) (2/2, Stobbe), [USA Today](#) (2/2, 7.88M), [TIME](#) (2/2, Ducharme, 5.33M), and [Newsday \(NY\)](#) (2/2, Ricks, 1.52M).

CDC SAYS DIRECTOR'S RESIGNATION WILL NOT AFFECT FLU FIGHT. The [Washington Times](#) (2/4, Howell, 327K) reports the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says that the resignation of its director Brenda Fitzgerald "will not disrupt efforts to combat a severe flu season that's killed more than 50 children and is on pace to break hospitalization records." Acting CDC Director Anne Schuchat said, "Despite recent leadership changes, CDC remains committed to our 24-7 mission to protect the health, safety and security of Americans," adding, "And that mission will not falter." Dan Jernigan, director of the influenza division at the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, indicated that H3N2, H1N1, and "influenza B" strains are active, and he said, "All of the different types of influenza are causing these deaths."

A separate story by the [Washington Times](#) (2/2, Howell, 327K) also reported.

FLU DEATHS LURCH TO 51 IN GEORGIA, WITH PEAK YET TO COME. The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (2/2, Oliviero, 1.17M) reported the flu season is worsening in Georgia, with hospitalizations in metro Atlanta alone rising to 120 for the fourth week of the year. The piece added that there also have been 51 confirmed flu-related deaths in the state this season, "up from a total of 25 last week." According to Kristen Nordlund, a spokeswoman for the CDC, "We have not hit our peak yet, unfortunately. ... Really, the bottom line is there is still likely many more weeks to go."

MASSACHUSETTS FLU ACTIVITY ON THE RISE, PROMPTING OFFICIALS TO ENCOURAGE VACCINATION.

The [Boston Globe](#) (2/2, Ellement, 908K) reported flu activity in Massachusetts has continued to increase, prompting health officials implore residents to become vaccinated. New Massachusetts Department of Public Health tracking data indicate “the number of people reporting flu-like systems to doctors, health care system, college clinics and hospitals during the past seven days increased by nearly 5 percent.” The piece added that the CDC on Friday released an analysis indicating that the widespread flu has gripped the whole nation, and that 16 children have died from the virus during the past week. CDC acting director Dr. Anne Schuchat is quoted as saying, “Even more families are now devastated by the flu. ... This season is a somber reminder why flu is one of the world’s greatest public health challenges.” The Globe also mentioned that Dr. Dan Jernigan, director of the CDC’s influenza division, “said the flu season could persist for several more weeks.”

MARYLAND SEEKING TO LIMIT ER VISITS AS HOSPITALS BECOME SWAMPED WITH FLU PATIENTS.

The [Baltimore Sun](#) (2/2, Cohn, 567K) reported Maryland is trying to limit the number of visits to emergency rooms as healthcare workers around the state grapple with the impact of the widespread flu season, advising against visits unless they are for “true emergencies.” The Sun said, “More than 3,000 people visited Maryland emergency rooms in the past week” with flu-like illnesses, bringing the season’s total visits to more than 20,000 in the state. According to US CDC acting director Dr. Anne Schuchat, “This is a very difficult season, with the hospitalization the highest we’ve seen, and we’re not out of the woods yet.”

FLORIDA NURSE’S COMPLAINTS ABOUT “CESSPOOL” OF FLU GO VIRAL.

The [Washington Post](#) (2/2, Bever, 14.56M) reported Florida nurse Katherine Lockler recently gained attention for her “viral video on social media urging people to take precautions to avoid influenza,” during which she said she is trying to combat “a cesspool of funky flu.” Following her recent 12-hour night shift, she filmed a video in which she said, “Here are some ideas how to treat the flu at home – wash your stinking hands.” The Post, also reporting on the extent of the flu season, quoted CDC acting director Anne Schuchat as saying, “As of this week, overall hospitalizations are now the highest we’ve seen” in almost a decade.

ANNE SCHUCHAT TO FILL CDC ACTING DIRECTOR ROLE.

[Kaiser Health News](#) (2/2) reported in a brief that Dr. Anne Schuchat, who has nearly three decades of experience at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, will be taking on the role of acting principal deputy director after former CDC Director Brenda Fitzgerald’s resigned from the position due to conflicts over financial interests.

IMPROVEMENTS IN CANCER CARE HAVE NOT BEEN SHARED EQUALLY WITH THE POOR.

[Vox](#) (2/2, Belluz, 1.44M) reported that the prevention, screening, and treatment of cancer have greatly improved in recent decades, but those improvements “aren’t being evenly distributed across populations.” There is a growing “income gap in cancer deaths” both within the US and between richer and poorer countries. Gopal Singh, a researcher at the Health Resources and Services Administration, said that income disparities in cancer survival in the US are “changing over time – they are widening.”

GOTTLIEB LAUDED FOR SPEEDING UP DRUG APPROVALS.

Peter Pitts, a former FDA associate commissioner and president of the Center for Medicine in the Public Interest, wrote in [Newsweek](#) (2/2, 1.46M) that FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb has “dramatically” reformed the drug approval process, and said that in 2017, the agency set “an all-time record for generic drug approvals and for more novel drugs than any year since 1996.” Pitts argued, “Gottlieb’s reforms are making the approval process more predictable. And it’s predictability that encourages innovation and investment, which results in both more lifesaving drugs and lower priced generics.” Pitts concluded, “More predictability at the FDA will lead to more – and more affordable – medicines. The future looks brighter for patients and drug companies alike thanks to Commissioner Gottlieb’s reforms.”

OPINION: A FEDERAL RIGHT-TO-TRY LAW WOULD UNDERMINE FDA PROTECTIONS WITHOUT GIVING PATIENTS A RIGHT TO ACCESS EXPERIMENTAL DRUGS. Lisa Fullam, a member of a California Institutional Review Board and a professor at Santa Clara University's Jesuit School of Theology, wrote in an opinion piece in the [San Francisco Chronicle](#) (2/3, 1.97M) that she has "serious concerns about" the prospect of a federal right to try law. Fullam argued that such a law would undermine "the FDA patient-protection process but do nothing to give any patient a legal right to a drug that its manufacturer does not wish to share, nor does it eliminate potentially crushing costs for such drugs." In the piece, Fullam outlined the current process that patients must undergo to access experimental drugs under the FDA's "expanded access" program, which involves the FDA as well as the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

FDA WARNS SOME PEOPLE WHO ARE ADDICTED TO OPIOIDS ARE ABUSING LOPERAMIDE. The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (2/2, Parker, 1.17M) reported the Food and Drug Administration warned that some people who are addicted to opioids have been abusing loperamide (Imodium A-D) as an alternative to more expensive drugs. The agency asked manufacturers to change their packaging to deter such abuse.

PHILIP MORRIS HOPING FDA APPROVES HEAT-NOT-BURN DEVICE. The [Washington Post](#) (2/5, 14.56M) runs an AP article saying Wall Street "expects that Philip Morris International's latest quarterly results improved from a year earlier." The company "has been hoping that the Food and Drug Administration will approve its heat-not-burn device in the U.S. as a possibly less-harmful alternative to cigarettes."

RADIATION FROM CELL PHONES UNLIKELY TO CAUSE CANCER, STUDIES SUGGEST. The [AP](#) (2/2, Borenstein, Neergaard) reported that "two government [studies](#) that bombarded rats and mice with cellphone radiation found a weak link to some heart tumors, but federal regulators and some scientists say don't worry – it is safe to use your device." The AP added that "the lead author of the research, John Bucher of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, is not changing his cellphone use or advising his family to."

The [Washington Post](#) (2/2, Cha, 14.56M) reported in "To Your Health" that the results "showed a higher risk of tumors, DNA or tissue damage and lower body weight in some groups of rodents, but no obvious ill effect in others and no clear implications for human health." The Post pointed out that "the study by the National Toxicology Program is believed to be the most comprehensive assessment of the health effects of such radiation on rats and mice and involved 3,000 test animals."

The [New York Times](#) (2/3, A9, Grady, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) reported that the FDA "issued a statement saying it respected the research by the toxicology program, had reviewed many other studies on cellphone safety, and had 'not found sufficient evidence that there are adverse health effects in humans caused by exposures at or under the current radio-frequency exposure limits.'" This "statement, from Dr. Jeffrey Shuren, director of the F.D.A.'s center for devices and radiological health, also said, 'Even with frequent daily use by the vast majority of adults, we have not seen an increase in events like brain tumors.'"

[CNN](#) (2/2, Howard, 28.59M) reported that Bucher said, "One of the things that we found most interesting about our findings was that the malignant schwannomas – even though they occurred in the heart and not in the head of these animals – were in fact schwannomas." Bucher added, "These experimental animal studies are but one approach to understanding whether exposures to radio-frequency radiation pose a risk to human health."

Still, [Reuters](#) (2/2, Berkrot) reported that "the findings are potentially a concern for device makers, especially the world's three biggest smartphone sellers, Apple Inc, Korea's Samsung Electronics Co Ltd and China's Huawei Technologies." According to Reuters, "The CTIA, the trade association representing AT&T Inc, Verizon Communications Inc, Apple Inc, Sprint Corp,

DISH Network Corp. and others, said...that previous studies have shown cellphone RF energy emissions have no known health risks." Also covering the story was [STAT](#) (2/2, Joseph, 42K).

NIH RELEASES NEW RESOURCES FOR DETERMINING EFFECTIVENESS OF DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS. In an article about the effectiveness of dietary supplements, the [Washington Post](#) (2/2, Rettner, 14.56M) reported that several new resources from the National Institutes of Health "summarize what is known about the safety and effectiveness of popular supplement ingredients." For example, NIH "has put together a fact sheet on ingredients in exercise supplements, which manufacturers often claim can improve users' strength or endurance, or help them achieve their performance goals faster." NIH Office of Dietary Supplements Director Paul Coates is quoted as saying, "Dietary supplements marketed for exercise and athletic performance can't take the place of a healthy diet, but some might have value for certain types of activity. ... Others don't seem to work, and some might even be harmful."

THIS YEAR A BAD YEAR FOR FLU VIRUS. On its website, [CNN](#) (2/2, Scutti, 28.59M) offered an explainer on the flu virus. CNN reported Anthony Fauci, director of the US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, has called this a "bad year" of flu, with A group strains H3N2 and H1N1 the most common viruses circulating this season along with some B group viruses. "When H3N2 dominates, it generally is a bad actor from the beginning and usually foreshadows a bad year," Fauci said, adding, "Superimpose upon that the fact that it is likely that the vaccine is not going to be particularly effective this year."

FLU VACCINE LESS EFFECTIVE THIS YEAR DUE IN PART OF EGG-BASED MANUFACTURING PROCESS. [CNBC](#) (2/2, 3.09M) reported on study from the journal *Eurosurveillance* which "found that the flu vaccine was only 10 percent effective against H3N2 (the main flu subtype going around in the US this season) among adults in Canada." The piece explained that recent research has shown that eggs used during the manufacturing process for the flu vaccine mutate the virus. CNBC said "no other cell system comes close to growing the flu virus as cheaply or efficiently as eggs, and the industry has invested a lot in the egg-production infrastructure." Anthony Fauci, the head of the NIH's infectious diseases division said, "We are stuck in the [egg-based] way, and it's tough to transition to a more modern technology."

RESEARCHERS WORRY NEW NIH HUMAN TESTING RULES WILL IMPACT RESEARCH. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/3, Hernandez, Marcus, Subscription Publication, 6.29M) reported the National Institutes of Health has issued new human research regulations as part of the agency's push for greater transparency and accountability. The rules subject basic research to more stringent oversight, leading some researchers to fear the potential impact on their work and their ability to get funding if they must post the results of studies with negative findings.

GINGREY: SHORT-TERM FIXES NOT ENOUGH FOR SPECIAL DIABETES PROGRAM. Writing in [The Hill](#) (2/2, 2M), former Rep. Dr. Phil Gingrey (R-GA) expressed concern that critical health programs are only receiving short-term fixes. Among these is the Special Diabetes Program (SDP), he says, "which is dedicated to federal funding for Type 1 diabetes research and for prevention and management programs in Native American populations that are most disproportionately impacted by Type 2 diabetes." He highlights critical SDP research at the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) "that has led to important breakthroughs in treatment, management, and to real progress towards a cure for Type 1 diabetes." Delays and breaks in funding "limit NIDDK's ability to fund new research and put advances at risk, delaying the long-awaited cure for this difficult disease."

NIAA OFFERS SAFETY TIPS FOR SUPER BOWL ACTIVITIES. [WTOP-FM](#) Washington (2/3, 186K) reported that the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism offered "some common sense tips to stay safe" during Super Bowl activities on Sunday. NIAA Director Dr. George Koob is quoted as saying, "Don't drive while intoxicated, have somebody else drive you." Koob "points to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration statistics, which indicate that drunken driving deaths spike on Super Bowl Sunday." Dr. Koob added, "Pace yourself with

nonalcoholic beverages, a glass of water, a sparkling water in between what you're drinking. ... Eat something. Snacks are very popular at Super Bowl parties and for good reason because that slows the absorption of alcohol."

ALA'S WIMMER SAYS BROKEN FUNDING PROCESS ENDANGERS AMERICANS' HEALTH.

Harold P. Wimmer, president and CEO of the American Lung Association, wrote for [The Hill](#) (2/2, 2M) that Americans "rely on agencies like the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to keep them healthy," but since a final funding bill has been postponed, "appropriations legislation is one of many urgent issues requiring Congressional action." Wimmer writes that "federal health programs save lives," pointing out that seven years ago NIH's National Lung Screening Trial "found that lung cancer deaths can be reduced by 20 percent for people at high risk for lung cancer," and now people "can be screened and their lung cancer can be found early, when it is most treatable."

CMS ADMINISTRATOR SEEMA VERMA PRAISES STATES SEEKING TO ADD MEDICAID WORK REQUIREMENTS IN OP-ED. Seema Verma, administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, writes in the [Washington Post](#) (2/4, 14.56M) that the ACA "fundamentally changed Medicaid by shifting predominantly low-income adults – often without children, healthy and working-age – into a program that wasn't designed for them." Verma says that the federal government "must allow the program to be more flexible" and allow states to "design innovative programs that meets their diverse needs." She applauds the applications from 11 states that seek to add work and community-engagement requirements for their "non-disabled, working-age populations."

FORMER HEAD OF CMS' INNOVATION CENTER INTERVIEWED. [Modern Healthcare](#) (2/3, Goozner, Subscription Publication, 226K) printed a lengthy interview with Dr. Patrick Conway, former deputy administrator for quality and innovation at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and now CEO of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina. Dr. Conway discussed the transition from the public to the private sector, his views on the direction of the CMS' Innovation Center under President Trump, accountable care organizations, and the Medicare Shared Savings program. Dr. Conway answered a question on reporting to say, "I do believe we need more outcome-oriented measures."

CNBC RUNS INTERNET POLL ON WHO SHOULD RUN AMAZON, JP MORGAN, BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HEALTHCARE CONSORTIUM. [CNBC](#) (2/2, Farr, 3.09M) reported that Amazon, JPMorgan, and Berkshire Hathaway are "looking for a CEO to run their consortium that is tasked with fundamentally changing health care as we know it," and, "just for fun" posted an Internet poll on who should fill the role. The options included Michelle Obama; Karen DeSalvo, New Orleans' former commissioner of health who is currently on the faculty at Dell Medical School at the University of Texas at Austin; former head of Cleveland Clinic Toby Cosgrove; and Andy Slavitt, who "oversaw health care programs that extended to 140 million Americans under President Obama, including Medicaid, Medicare, the Children's Health Insurance Program, and the Health Insurance Marketplace." Slavitt was voted the winner with 60 percent of the vote, and Michelle Obama secured second place with 23 percent. Slavitt responded to the news by saying, "thanks, very flattering."

CMS POLICY WOULD CHANGE NEXT GENERATION SEQUENCING PAYMENT. The [Cancer Letter](#) (2/2, Goldberg) reported that a policy now under development at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services "will define settings where Medicare will pay for next generation sequencing." CMS will use FDA approval of NGS tests "to determine whether these tests are covered outright, receive 'coverage with evidence development,' or are denied coverage altogether," the article says. Vincent Miller, chief medical officer of Foundation Medicine, said, "I think doctors and patients have tremendous confidence in knowing that a test has gone through the scrutiny of FDA review." The [Cancer Letter](#) (2/2) also carries Miller's remarks in-depth.

GROUPS SUE HHS FOR INFORMATION ON BLOCKING ABORTIONS SOUGHT BY UNDOCUMENTED MINORS. [The Hill](#) (2/2, Hellmann, 2M) reported that the Campaign for Accountability and Equity Forward, represented by American Oversight, filed a lawsuit in the US District Court for the District of Columbia Thursday, arguing that HHS failed to comply with an information request related to the agency's blocking of undocumented minors from obtaining abortions in a timely manner. The Trump Administration has blocked at least four undocumented minors in the custody of the US from receiving abortions.

[Vox](#) (2/2, 1.44M) reported similarly.

Health Reform:

SEVERAL STATES CONSIDERING THEIR OWN VERSION OF THE ACA'S INDIVIDUAL MANDATE. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/3, Armour, Subscription Publication, 6.29M) reported that several states are mulling their own versions of the ACA's individual mandate, which could exacerbate differences between Democratic states that aim to stabilize the ACA, and Republican ones which want to repeal the healthcare law. The article said Maryland legislators are pushing a proposal to replace the ACA's mandate, while California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Minnesota, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Vermont and Washington, as well as the District of Columbia, are also mulling the idea.

[The Hill](#) (2/3, Greenwood, 2M) also reported on the Wall Street Journal's story.

FAMILIES INCREASINGLY ENROLLING IN HEALTHCARE SHARING MINISTRIES AS ACA PREMIUMS RISE. [Politico Magazine](#) (2/4, Demko, Rayasam, 2.39M) spotlights "health care sharing ministries," a lower cost, faith-based alternative to individual insurance plans on the ACA exchanges which are exempted from the requirements of the healthcare law. Politico observes that "enrollment in health care sharing ministries has skyrocketed, particularly in states where the individual insurance market has been beset by spiraling premiums and dwindling competition." The 2,800-word piece discusses concerns about the "aggressive marketing" of the ministries and their potential risks to consumers, such as the lack of a guarantee that they will pay for medical bills.

ACA ENROLLMENT FOR 2018 MAY OUTPACE PREVIOUS YEARS', DATA INDICATE. The [Washington Examiner](#) (2/4, Leonard, 435K) reports that sign-ups for the ACA "in states that had later deadlines for open enrollment appear to be outpacing previous years, despite consumer confusion about the law and federal cutbacks to advertising and outreach." Data show that as of January 29, almost 11.8 million consumers had enrolled in ACA plans through HealthCare.gov and the states' exchanges. The article says the figures "appear to be headed toward outrunning the end of the previous open enrollment during President Barack Obama's last year in office, when 12.2 million had signed up."

EXPERTS QUESTION LEGALITY OF IDAHO'S PLAN TO ALLOW POLICIES WHICH DO NOT MEET ACA REQUIREMENTS. The [Idaho Statesman](#) (2/3, Dutton, 207K) reported that Idaho has gained "national attention as health care experts try to make sense of the state's rogue move – letting health insurance companies sell plans that don't follow federal law." Last month, Governor Butch Otter (R) signed an executive order allowing insurers to sell plans which do not meet ACA requirements in the state. The article said this "move took national health care observers by surprise, with many questioning the legality of Idaho's approach."

CALIFORNIA OFFICIALS MULLING WAYS TO SHORE UP ACA. The [Modesto \(CA\) Bee](#) (2/3, Carlson, 50K) reported that the ACA reduced the number of uninsured Americans by 20 million, and California officials "are determined to keep the program going after a recent federal decision to eliminate the tax penalty for having no insurance and after persistent opposition from conservatives to the health reform law." The article said the lawmakers "could propose ways to support Covered California and continue with affordable rates for individuals whose annual

incomes are between \$16,664 and \$48,240 and families of four earning from \$33,948 to \$98,400 a year." They could also propose a state mandate which would require individuals and families to carry healthcare insurance.

REPEAL OF ACA'S INDIVIDUAL MANDATE COULD CAUSE NEBRASKA PREMIUMS TO INCREASE. The [AP](#) (2/4, Schulte) reports that Nebraska consumers could see health insurance premiums increase in the future because the federal government has "gutted the legal requirement to purchase coverage" under the ACA. The AP explains that Republicans ended the tax penalty that was key to the individual mandate, rendering the mandate "toothless." The piece says that while the Congressional Budget Office estimates that 13 million people will become uninsured because of the new provision, it is unclear how the change will affect Nebraskans, adding that even if premiums increase, federal subsidies also would rise to blunt the effect on individual consumers.

CONSUMERS ADVISED ABOUT POSSIBLE OPTIONS IF THEY MISSED ACA OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD. [Fox Business](#) (2/2, De Lea, 657K) reported that many Americans did not know the ACA open enrollment period ended on December 15 for most states. The article said in spite of "a high level of unawareness about the severely curtailed window, 8.8 million Americans still signed up for the exchanges during the specified enrollment timeframe." The piece added that for those who missed open enrollment, "there are still some options available," such as short-term plans and qualifying life events.

FEW REAL ESTATE AGENCIES OFFER HEALTH INSURANCE. The [Chicago Tribune](#) (2/2, Davich, 2M) reported that real estate agencies nationwide typically do not offer their agents employer-based health insurance. Only three percent of the members of the National Association of Realtors report receiving insurance through their firms. Part of that problem is because nearly 90 percent of real estate agents are independent contractors and if the agencies began offering health benefits, then they could jeopardize that status. The article profiled one Northwest Indiana agency that does offer health insurance because, it says, it can ease employee stress on its agents.

COMMENTARY CONSIDERS HEALTH REFORM. Several outlets offer opinions on health reform.

Cyrée Jarelle Johnson writes in the [New York Times](#) (2/5, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) that healthcare and employment discrimination are "pivotal" and "overlapping issues" for transgender communities, and became "more so last month when the Trump administration decided to allow states to institute work requirements for Medicaid." Johnson explains, "The unemployment rate for trans people is three times higher than the national average, according to a 2015 survey produced by the National Center for Transgender Equality – a rate that results, in many cases, from anti-trans job discrimination." She concludes that Medicaid work requirements not only roll back ACA protections, "they are far more likely to dehumanize trans people and prevent Americans from accessing necessary medical care."

Contributor Bruce Japsen writes in a [Forbes](#) (2/4, 4.91M) piece that just when President Trump is giving up "on the effort to repeal the Affordable Care Act, health insurers are forecasting improved profits and stability in the marketplace for 2018." Japsen adds that the ACA remains "largely intact," and "health insurance companies are looking ahead to more calm political waters." Cigna and Anthem said last week that "their individual businesses are improving."

Contributor Avik Roy writes in a [Forbes](#) (2/4, 4.91M) piece that recently, he "spoke with Andrew Bremberg, Director of the President's Domestic Policy Council, about Trump's health care agenda for 2018." Roy says Bremberg's and Trump's view "is that the Trump administration has done more than people appreciate on Obamacare, and on health care more broadly." Roy calls Trump's healthcare agenda for 2018 "ambitious," and says if he succeeds in "tackling the high cost of hospital care and prescription drugs, he will have achieved something that all health policy

experts support in theory, but few believe possible in reality: narrowing the gap between the cost of American health care and that of health care elsewhere."

Richard G. Frank, Ph.D., the Margaret T. Morris Professor of Health Economics in the Department of Health Care Policy at Harvard Medical School, wrote in an op-ed for [The Hill](#) (2/3, 2M) that HHS recently said it will allow states to impose medicaid work requirements, and Kentucky is already moving to implement the change. Frank argued that it is important to consider adults with mental and addictive illnesses, because their conditions "compromise the ability to work." He added that only about 50 percent "of Medicaid-eligible adults who have a mental illness and do not work are classified as disabled according to these criteria. What will happen to the others?"

Dr. Garth Graham, president of the Aetna Foundation, wrote in [The Hill](#) (2/2, 2M) that as a physician, he knows that the "road to improving health is long and complicated" and that "it can be hard to know where to begin" to address problems affecting health of our communities, including "violence, food deserts, income inequality and environmental issues." Dr. Graham said "60 percent of a person's life expectancy is driven by social factors, like access to fresh foods," and wrote in praise of "local cities and counties" which are "joining forces with community groups to reach residents and tackle local health issues." He cited efforts in Chester County, Pennsylvania, for example, aimed at increasing residents' exercise.

Patricia Maryland, President and CEO of Ascension Healthcare, wrote in [Modern Healthcare](#) (2/3, Subscription Publication, 226K) that access to healthcare providers and insurance are just one component of a national healthcare policy. She said attention must be paid to "nonmedical factors" such as access to grocery stores, neighborhood safety, and adequate transportation. She argued that providers should adopt a "holistic approach" to better serve their communities and prevent "healthcare inequities."

Opioid News:

COLLEGES SUPPLYING NALOXONE AS OPIOID OVERDOSES RISE. [Politico](#) (2/2, Sanchez, 2.44M) reported colleges are increasingly stocking naloxone as the number of opioid overdose incidents continues to rise. A survey by the Hazelden Betty Ford Institute for Recovery Advocacy and The Christie Foundation found that "while over 30 percent of college students said they knew someone who had overdosed on pain pills or heroin, even more – over 37 percent – reported not knowing what to do if they were present," Politico reported.

NORTH CAROLINA JOINS PDMP DATA SHARING COLLECTIVE. [Healthcare IT News](#) (2/2, Davis, 2K) reported North Carolina has joined the interstate prescription drug data exchange PMP InterConnect compact, joining 46 states now part of the collaborative. The White House Opioid Commission has recommended nationwide interoperability "as researchers have found PDMPs combat prescription drug misuse and abuse," the article said, noting that Washington, California, Florida, and Nebraska do not currently participate.

[Healthcare Informatics](#) (2/2, Leventhal) also reported.

MARYLAND'S BALTIMORE COUNTY TO VOTE MONDAY ON LITIGATION AGAINST OPIOID MANUFACTURERS. The [Baltimore Sun](#) (2/4, Wood, 567K) reported the Baltimore County Council "is expected on Monday to approve the hiring of private attorneys to help the county government sue pharmaceutical companies that make opioid drugs." The Sun reported the litigation "comes as council members have grown increasingly concerned about the effects of opioid and heroin addiction on the community," where 336 overdose deaths were reported in 2016.

RURAL ARIZONA POLICE'S NALOXONE TRAINING PROGRAM EXPANDED STATEWIDE. The [Arizona Republic](#) (2/2, Pohl, 941K) spotlighted the Kingman Police Department, the first in

Arizona to create a naloxone training program which has since been expanded statewide. With the backing of the Arizona Department of Health Services, the Republic reported, "Dozens of public-safety agencies ... have received thousands of free naloxone kits." The piece noted that rural Mohave County was Arizona's "most prolific county" for opioid prescriptions filled, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

CHIME HOSTS FIRST OPIOID TASK FORCE MEETING. [Healthcare Informatics](#) (2/2, Leventhal) reported the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME) "held its first Opioid Task Force meeting in which more than two dozen healthcare IT leaders gathered to determine how they could help fight the opioid epidemic." The piece said the CHIME Opioid Task Force will work to "increase awareness and destigmatize the opioid crisis," and noted that opioid overdoses kill 115 people a day, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

FEATURE SPOTLIGHTS CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE IMPACTED BY THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC. The [Arizona Republic](#) (2/3, 941K) reported the Citizen Times "interviewed more than 35 parents, 25 children, 50 medical professionals, 45 social workers and dozens of people from other agencies to understand the scope of the opioid crisis's effect on children" in Western North Carolina. The piece spotlights the cases of three children among the "hundreds of children, from newborns to teenagers, who have overwhelmed the foster care system in some Western North Carolina counties." The piece noted that overdoses involving opioids "killed 33,100 Americans in 2015, up 69 percent from 2008, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse."

OPIOID CRISIS ALSO HARMING SENIORS. The [Scranton \(PA\) Times Tribune](#) (2/4, Osborne, Johnston, 171K) reports that while "much of the media attention" has focused on younger opioid abusers, "older adults are more likely to be prescribed opioids than any other population and overdoses are on the rise." The piece says that "nearly 14,000 people age 45-plus died from opioid overdoses in 2015 – 42 percent of all such deaths nationally, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention." The piece says that by increasing awareness, "changing prescriber conduct and boosting access to treatment, Pennsylvania can save lives."

GEORGIA'S CANDLER COUNTY SUES OPIOID MAKERS. The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (2/2, 1.17M) reported Georgia's Candler County is the first rural country outside the Atlanta area to file suit against opioid manufacturers and distributors. The article said Candler County "saw 169.7 opioid prescriptions per 100 people in 2016, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention," making it the county with the state's fifth highest prescription rate.

VIRTUAL REALITY OFFERS POTENTIAL IN TREATING ADDICTION, RESEARCHER SAYS. The [AP](#) (2/3, Clark) spotlighted the potential of virtual reality with a cognitive behavioral therapist to help substance abusers fortify themselves against potential triggers. Patrick Bordnick, the dean of Tulane University's School of Social Work, "has investigated the possibility that the world of virtual reality could be used in addiction treatment" and to help autistic people. University of Oxford researchers assessed 285 studies conducted on virtual reality and its use in treating mental health conditions and concluded in 2017 that with virtual reality, "individuals can repeatedly experience their problematic situations and be taught, via evidence-based psychological treatments, how to overcome difficulties."

OHIO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS HOPE FOR ACTION FROM TRUMP ON OPIOIDS. The [AP](#) (2/3, Sewell) reported President Trump heads to Ohio on Monday to highlight the new tax overhaul, even "though some in a state with one of the nation's highest overdose rates would rather hear more about his plans for the drug crisis." Newtown Police Chief Tom Synan said in an interview that with federal funding, "There are so many more things that could be done, so many more people we could help."

COLORADO METHADONE CLINICS HAVE DOUBLED IN THREE YEARS. The [AP](#) (2/4) reports, "Denver Health's narcotic treatment program now has 550 patients, double what it had

three years ago," but "the medical center estimates it could serve four times as many people" with additional resources. The story says a recent Colorado Health Institute report "found that of 22,000 people addicted to opioids in Colorado, just 4,000 received treatment at a clinic for opioid addiction."

PHYSICIANS CONCERNED FLORIDA OPIOID BILLS ARE TOO RESTRICTIVE. The [AP](#) (2/4, Reedy) reports that physicians in Florida "have mounted strong opposition to provisions being considered by House and Senate committees to limit prescriptions for Schedule II painkillers like Oxycontin and Fentanyl to three days – or seven days in some cases if a physician documents it as medically necessary." Physicians say that such limits on prescriptions "are not enough for some cases of acute pain," and "would go too far in limiting flexibility for practitioners," the AP reports. Gov. Rick Scott's press secretary, Lauren Schenone, said, "The Governor's proposal is based on guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and is applicable only to acute pain, not chronic pain such as cancer and hospice care."

ABOUT 600 OPIOID DEATHS ON LONG ISLAND PROJECTED FOR 2016. [Newsday \(NY\)](#) (2/4, Morales, O'Keeffe, 1.52M) reports the opioid overdose projections for New York's Long Island were around 600 last year. The piece notes that nationally, "the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates there were 63,600 drug overdose deaths in 2016, according to the most recent data."

WEST VIRGINIA OFFICIALS SEE NO EASY SOLUTION AHEAD FOR OPIOID CRISIS. The [Wheeling \(WV\) Intelligencer](#) (2/5, 51K) reports, "There is no easy solution to the Mountain State's opioid epidemic, according to multiple professionals who spoke on the matter during the West Virginia Press Association's 2018 Legislative Breakfast last week." Among them, Wayne Harmon, chief of operations of the Kanawha County Emergency Ambulance Authority and West Virginia EMS Coalition, said "a dramatic increase in social problems" lead to drug abuse. His agency responded to calls of 100 heroin overdoses in 2015, Harmon said, but in 2017, that number rose to 582.

ARKANSAS' SEBASTIAN COUNTY FACES DEEPENING OPIOID CRISIS. In a series about opioid prescribing and abuse in Arkansas' Sebastian County, the [Fort Smith \(AR\) Times Record](#) (2/4, Bryan, 104K) reports that "Sebastian County led Arkansas in arrests for selling, manufacturing or possessing opioids from 2011 to 2015, according to county arrest records." Meanwhile the county "also had the second-highest number of drug overdose deaths of all kinds at 25 and tied for the seventh-highest rate of drug overdose deaths per 100,000 people at 19.6 in 2016," according to the Arkansas State Crime Lab," and had the third-highest average for prescription painkillers per 100 people in 2016 at 169, according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention," the article says.

PHYSICIANS IN SOUTHWEST COLORADO REDUCING OPIOID PRESCRIPTIONS AMID ABUSE EPIDEMIC. The [Durango \(CO\) Herald](#) (2/4, Shinn, 23K) reports that while "more than 42,000 people from across the country died in 2016 by opioid overdose ... according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention," opioid abuse is among biggest health problems facing Southwest Colorado along with diabetes and suicide. Among the measures being taken by physicians, Mercy Regional Medical Center CMO William Plauth said, "doctors use alternative medications or limit opioid prescriptions to seven to 10 days when appropriate," the Herald reports.

PFIZER HAVING TROUBLE MAKING CERTAIN PREFILLED SYRINGES OF OPIOIDS AGAIN. [STAT](#) (2/2, Silverman, 42K) reported that "for the third time in six months, Pfizer is having difficulty manufacturing certain prefilled syringes" of opioid pain medications, leading to supply problems at hospitals nationwide. According to STAT, the problems "are all occurring at a specific plant that has recently encountered manufacturing issues, although the latest snag with the Carpuject and ISecure syringes is being traced to a component made by a supplier."

COMMENTARY CONSIDERS THE OPIOID CRISIS. Multiple outlets weigh in on the opioid epidemic.

In an editorial, the [Baton Rouge \(LA\) Advocate](#) (2/3, 46K) said that Louisiana governments suing opioid manufacturers and distributors are not addressing the substance abuse epidemic. "The resolution of these court cases could take years, and the addicts and agencies responding to their plight can't wait for the wheels of justice to act," the Advocate wrote, adding that the lawsuits risks becoming "not a means to an end, but an end in itself – a cash cow for lawyers who enjoy the patronage of politicians."

Cal Thomas writes for the [Beckley \(WV\) Register-Herald](#) (2/4, 59K) that as Republicans celebrate their tax policy victory, the opioid crisis deepens "without any sign of a political rescue on the way." Amid the Republican Congressional Retreat in West Virginia, "a state that continues to lead the nation in drug overdose deaths at twice the national rate," Thomas laments that "there was no epiphany on funding to attack the nation's raging drug crisis."

David E. Myles, a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics, wrote for the [Spartanburg \(SC\) Herald-Journal](#) (2/2, 116K) that "physicians can do an even better job of making evidence-based decisions when it comes to opioid prescribing practices." Myles said physician's "medical societies and governing bodies can support compulsory continuing education regarding opioid prescribing," and physicians "can also empower the autonomy of the patients and families we treat."

Healthcare Fraud:

PHILADELPHIA FACILITY BEING INVESTIGATED FOR MEDICAID FRAUD. The [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) (2/2, Brubaker, 951K) reported, "The Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General, through its Medicaid fraud control neglect team, is investigating Blossom Philadelphia, a Chestnut Hill nonprofit that in October lost its license to operate residences for 89 adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities," a spokesman said. The article added that when the facility's license was revoked, the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services said it showed "gross incompetence." Family members of residents accused Blossom of not providing "food, failure to give residents their medicine or get them to medical appointments, lack of social outings, the absence of basic hygiene, and, for at least one resident, the refusal to change diapers, causing severe bed sores."

IOWA PHARMACIST ARRESTED FOR ALLEGEDLY DEFRAUDING MEDICAID. The [Waterloo-Cedar Falls \(IA\) Courier](#) (2/2, Reinitz, 163K) reported that Ric E. Foreman, 62, of Waterloo, Iowa, "has been arrested on allegations he billed Medicaid for prescriptions that weren't delivered." He was charged with "second-degree fraud, tampering with records and prohibited acts with prescriptions." Authorities "allege Foreman would bill Iowa's Medicaid program for prescriptions he prepared, but he didn't refund Medicaid if the prescriptions themselves weren't delivered or picked up by the patients."

Healthcare News:

SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER VA CHOICE REFORMS. [Modern Healthcare](#) (2/3, Luthi, Subscription Publication, 226K) reported that the Senate Veteran's Affairs Committee plans to revisit VA Choice reforms that "petered out late last year after Sen. Jerry Moran (R-Kan.) introduced a counter bill to legislation that the committee previously approved with bipartisan support." President Trump mentioned VA Choice in his State of the Union address and senators hope to land a deal with the White House, which reportedly supports a bill more like Sen. Moran's. Moran's bill, with Sen. John McCain (R-AZ), "goes much further to expand private community options for veterans."

MANY HEALTHCARE STOCKS FELL LAST WEEK. [Modern Healthcare](#) (2/2, Barr, Subscription Publication, 226K) reported many health insurance and hospital company stocks fell last week following news of a new collaboration among Amazon, Berkshire Hathaway, and JPMorgan Chase to reduce healthcare costs. For example, UnitedHealth Group fell more than 6%, while Aetna fell 4.19%.

ANTHEM'S POLICY OF DENYING COVERAGE FOR UNNECESSARY ED VISITS NOW EXTENDS TO SIX STATES. [Yahoo! Lifestyle](#) (2/2, Haglage) reported Anthem has a policy of denying coverage for unnecessary emergency department visits in six states. The article points out that the American College of Emergency Physicians, led by Dr. Paul Kivela, has criticized the policy. In an interview with Yahoo! Lifestyle, Kivela said that Anthem's policy puts profits ahead of patients.

DOJ ASKS FOR MORE INFORMATION ON AETNA-CVS MERGER. [The Hill](#) (2/2, Hellmann, 2M) reported the US Department of Justice has asked CVS Health and Aetna for more information on their proposed \$69 billion merger. The article added that it is "not clear" what information the DOJ is asking for, but "such requests are common." The companies still expect the merger to go through in the second half of 2018.

Also reporting were [Healthcare IT News](#) (2/2, Morse, 2K) and [Fierce Healthcare](#) (2/2, Small, 146K).

AMERICAN HEALTHCARE PRIMED FOR DISRUPTION. [Modern Healthcare](#) (2/3, Kacik, Livingston, Subscription Publication, 226K) reported the healthcare industry is primed for disruption given its high cost and low innovation, and major companies are stepping in to lower costs and implement more efficient systems. However, experts disagree "as to whether the companies – be it Amazon and friends or CVS and Aetna – can succeed in influencing healthcare pricing." The article added that previous coalitions created to put pressure on the healthcare industry have faltered, and should serve as a cautionary tale for future distributors.

VA REACHES AGREEMENT FOR IN-HOME CARE FOR VETERAN WITH ALS. The [AP](#) (2/2, Bernstein) reported the US Department of Veterans Affairs announced Friday it had reached an agreement to extend in-home healthcare through April for a Springfield veteran with Lou Gehrig's disease. Michael Williamson sued the federal agency on January 23 in US District Court in Eugene after a VA contract company notified him that his home healthcare of nearly 17 years would end on February 13 because it couldn't find caregivers, according to the suit. The company, New Horizons, contracts with the VA's medical facility in Roseburg.

RIZZO: POLITICIANS, ADVOCACY GROUPS WEIGH IN ON ABORTION BILL. In an analysis piece in the [Washington Post's](#) (2/5, 14.56M) "Fact Checker" column, Salvador Rizzo writes that elected officials and advocacy groups are weighing in on a bill that would ban abortion after 20 weeks. Abortion rights advocates "were particularly critical of the exceptions – or lack thereof – for cases relating to a woman's health, rape or incest." The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists released a statement opposing the 20-week ban, saying, "There are many reasons a woman may seek abortion care at 20 weeks, including fatal or serious medical conditions to the woman and/or her fetus that cannot be diagnosed at earlier stages of pregnancy." ACOG spokeswoman Megan Christin said the language "does not create an exception to preserve the health of a woman," but instead "vaguely indicates doctors can only act once a woman's life is actively in danger. In application, it leaves doctors with unclear standards, not rooted in evidence, that expose doctors to the threat of criminal and civil prosecution, limiting their options for care that is often needed in complex, urgent medical situations."

CEO SAYS ANTI-ABORTION LEGISLATION GAINED STEAM IN 2017. Catherine Glenn Foster, president and CEO of Americans United for Life, writes in [The Hill](#) (2/4, 2M) about the state of abortion legislation 45 years after Roe v. Wade. Foster reviews federal and local abortion legislation that was passed in 2017, and says there are "dozens of life-affirming bills on the

horizon at the state level." Meanwhile, at the federal level, "we are seeing real progress on born-alive infant protections, a sex-selection ban, Hyde Amendment permanency, and Planned Parenthood defunding that would reallocate taxpayer dollars to the community health centers that provide comprehensive care and outnumber Planned Parenthood locations 20 to 1." Foster concludes by saying that in 2018, "the wind is at our backs."

Health Information Technology:

AETNA TO PAY NEW YORK \$1.15 MILLION CIVIL PENALTY OVER PRIVACY BREACH OF HIV STATUS. The [Jamestown \(NY\) Post-Journal](#) (2/4, 42K) reports that the state of New York reached a settlement with Aetna Inc. on claims that the insurer "revealed the HIV status of 2,460 New York members through a mailing in July 2017 in which the envelopes' oversized transparent address window revealed text confirming the members' HIV status." Aetna will pay \$1.15 million in a civil penalty and will be required to "develop and maintain enhanced operating procedures with regard to privacy protections" and "hire an independent consultant to monitor and report on the settlement's injunctive provisions."

Human Services News:

GAO REPORT FINDS CRITICAL GAPS IN ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY OVERSIGHT. The [New York Times](#) (2/3, Pear, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) said that federal investigators "have found huge gaps in" assisted living facility regulations that have "potentially jeopardized the care of hundreds of thousands of people." According to a Government Accountability Office report, over half of states were unable to provide information on "cases involving the abuse, neglect, exploitation or unexplained death of Medicaid beneficiaries in assisted living facilities." The GAO document also criticized the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for providing "unclear guidance" to states to such a degree that it "cannot ensure states are meeting their commitments to protect the health and welfare of Medicaid beneficiaries receiving assisted living services."

ANTIPSYCHOTIC USE IN NURSING HOMES DROPS TO UNDER 16 PERCENT, CMS DATA SHOW. The [AP](#) (2/5, Cray) reports on its website that new CMS data indicate "the percentage of long-term nursing home residents being given antipsychotic drugs dropped from about 24 percent in late 2011 to under 16 percent last year." The results follow advocacy work by groups such as AARP to reduce antipsychotic use, and their "long-running campaign" gained new support Monday "with the release of a detailed report by Human Rights Watch urging" authorities to increase scrutiny of their use.

AGING BABY BOOMER GENERATION PROMPTS CONCERNS OVER CAREGIVER SHORTAGE. The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (2/4, Channick, 1.17M) reports that as "baby boomers" age, the question of who will care for them when they cannot care for themselves has grown more concerning given the "shortage of qualified workers, rising costs and a demographic shift" burdening care providers. Robert Espinoza, vice president of policy for New York-based PHI, characterized the industry as being "absolutely in a crisis mode," adding that providers "are routinely reporting that they can't find and they can't keep direct care workers." The piece said this also is felt by patients' families, who may be burdened by high care costs, and added that while long-term care insurance may present an option, fewer than eight percent of Americans have purchased it because of "rising premiums and a dearth of providers, according to a 2016 study by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services."

COMMUNICATION OFFICER BECOMING "LIFELINE" FOR LATINOS IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND. The [AP](#) (2/4, Siegel) profiles Lilian Mass, a bilingual communications officer for Montgomery County, Maryland, who hosts a weekly radio show to provide information on immigration issues and has become a "lifeline between local government agencies and Montgomery's growing Latino population." The AP says that the "role has taken on added urgency as the federal government announced plans to rescind temporary protected status (TPS)

for Salvadorans, Hondurans and other immigrant groups, and to phase out Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), the Obama-era program for undocumented immigrants brought to this country as children that is at the center of budget negotiations."

CHILD ABUSE DEATHS RISE, HHS REPORT SAYS. The [AP](#) (2/2, Slodysko, Crary) reported that an analysis last week from the Department of Health and Human Services' Children's Bureau revealed that child abuse fatalities have increased, "with the bulk of the increase occurring in two states – Indiana and Texas – where child-welfare agencies have been in disarray." There were 1,700 fatalities in fiscal year 2016, up seven percent from the prior year. In Texas, child abuse fatalities spiked from 162 to 217 and in Indiana, 70 children died compared to 34 in the prior reporting year.

NEW HAMPSHIRE SENATE OKS BILL TO PRESERVE CHILD ABUSE, NEGLECT RECORDS FOR SEVEN YEARS. The [AP](#) (2/4, Ramer) reports the New Hampshire Senate approved a bill that would require the Division of Children, Youth, and Families to keep records of child abuse and neglect allegations determined "unworthy of investigating" for at least seven years. Under current law, the records are only preserved for one year. The new legislation would also require reports "that were investigated but deemed unfounded" to "be kept for 10 years instead of the current three." The bill still needs to pass the House, and agency officials have raised concerns about creating and retaining electronic records to aid in compliance if it becomes law.

ARIZONA CHILD WELFARE AGENCY ADOPTS NEW RULES AIMED AT KEEPING CHILDREN IN HOMES. The [Arizona Republic](#) (2/4, 941K) reports that the Arizona Department of Child Safety has revamped its training "to emphasize keeping families together while still ensuring kids are safe," which means that case investigators will spend more time with a family and bring "more eyes" to each situation. The new safety protocol sets a higher standard for removing a child from his or her home called "present danger," meaning that there must be an "immediate and severe and observable" situation. The Republic says, "It's too early to gauge how the program is faring for kids."

HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASES RISE IN OHIO, REPORT SAYS. The [AP](#) (2/4) reports that according to the Ohio attorney general's Human Trafficking Commission, human trafficking investigations have increased 50 percent over the past year, but the number of arrests and convictions decreased. A report last week disclosed that in 2017, there were 202 human trafficking cases, 70 arrests, and 18 convictions.

STALLED HEALTHCARE PROGRAMS MAY BE INCLUDED IN NEXT GOVERNMENT FUNDING BILL. [Kaiser Health News](#) (2/2, Luthra) reported that as the current stop-gap measure funding the federal government nears its ending date of February 8, "health care could be caught in the crosshairs" because there are several programs whose fates remain "unsettled," including renewal of funding for the country's 1,400 community health centers. In addition to the community health centers, provisions relating to Disproportionate Share Hospitals and limits on physical and occupational therapy, and speech-language pathology treatments – so-called "extenders" – could also be included in the next negotiations. The article said "most of the programs aren't politically controversial" and "usually pass with bipartisan support."

LIBERALS HOPE TO PROVIDE UNIVERSAL HOME CARE FOR ELDERLY, DISABLED IN MAINE. The [AP](#) (2/4, Villeneuve) reports that liberals backed by billionaire philanthropist George Soros have launched an effort for Maine to be the first state to ensure all elderly and disabled people have access to help with daily activities and medication management. The proposed ballot question would increase taxes on high-earning Mainers in order to raise \$310 million annually to provide such care, which would include home health aides, home repair, hospice care, and transportation.

IMMIGRATION POLICY MAY AFFECT ELDER CARE. The [New York Times](#) (2/2, Span, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) reported, "One in four of the direct-care workers in the nation's

nursing homes, assisted living facilities and home care agencies are foreign-born, according to an analysis of census data by P.H.I., the New York research organization." The Times focused on Menorah Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing Care, which "draws heavily on immigrants for its 3,500 employees," including "25 Haitian-American nursing assistants and practical nurses whose temporary protected status was terminated in November."

Food & Import Safety:

NO NEW HEPATITIS A CASES REPORTED IN UTAH FOLLOWING RESTAURANT INFECTION CONFIRMATION. The [AP](#) (2/2) said that Utah health officials said they have not confirmed any new cases of hepatitis A in connection with infected workers at two restaurants and a convenience store. The Salt Lake Tribune reported Salt Lake County has not discovered any new cases of the disease since sounding the alarm last month, "though the disease's long incubation time means it's still possible."

RAW MEAT-BASED PET PRODUCTS MAY PUT PETS, OWNERS AT RISK, STUDY SUGGESTS. [Reuters](#) (2/2, Crist) reported that a new [study](#) from the Netherlands has found that raw meats in raw meat-based diets for pets may be contaminated with bacteria and parasites, particularly E. coli, Listeria and Salmonella. "The pathogens can be transmitted...to owners by direct contact with pets (sleeping with pets, licking the face, stroking the fur) or by cross-contamination of foods and utensils in the kitchen," study coauthor Dr. Paul Overgaauw of Utrecht University explained.

Nutrition & Obesity:

POLICY STATEMENT ISSUED HIGHLIGHTING IMPORTANCE OF FIRST 1,000 DAYS OF NUTRITION IN CHILDREN. The [Huffington Post](#) (2/3, Weber, 4.67M) reported that the nutrition youngsters "receive during their first 1,000 days – from conception until their second birthday – has a profound impact on how they develop." To emphasize how important this is even here in the US, "the American Academy of Pediatrics issued a [groundbreaking policy statement](#) highlighting the importance, and irreversibility, of the 1,000-day window." The AAP Committee on Nutrition wrote, "Failure to provide key nutrients during this critical period of brain development may result in lifelong deficits in brain function despite subsequent nutrient repletion."

Medicare:

REPORTED DATA IN OPEN PAYMENTS PROGRAM MAY BE INACCURATE, SOME SAY. [Bloomberg BNA](#) (2/2, Swann, 3K) reported some healthcare attorneys believe that are "major questions" over data from Medicare's payment transparency effort known as the Open Payments program. The program "requires drug and device companies to report all payments to doctors and teaching hospitals." Bloomberg said, "Inaccurate data can easily be reported through the Open Payments program, a spokesman for the American Medical Association told" the publication, "and there's little chance that it will be verified and corrected."

INDEPENDENT PHYSICIANS FAVORING ACOS. [Modern Healthcare](#) (2/3, Castellucci, Subscription Publication, 226K) reported that independent practice providers, which fell to 47.1% of physicians, according to an American Medical Association report, "are looking to ACOs as a way to adapt to changes while also keeping their autonomy" amid the "rising costs associated with maintaining technology and other resources to comply with quality payment programs." The article says ACOs "offer a way for independent practices to get the support they need to succeed in value-based payment programs like those established under MACRA," while many ACOs "invest in technology, aggregate data and complete the reporting required for CMS programs on behalf of their doctors."

Medicaid &CHIP:

WPOST: MEDICAID WORK REQUIREMENTS MAY CREATE AN OPENING FOR COMPROMISE ON VIRGINIA MEDICAID EXPANSION. In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (2/4, 14.56M) says that Virginia Republicans should stop blocking legislative efforts to expand Medicaid because the state is “close to the bottom” in “per capital Medicaid spending on the poor, the disabled and others, including children, who are unable to afford health insurance” – ranking 47th in the nation in 2017. The Post observes that House of Delegates Speaker M. Kirkland Cox (R) insists that Medicaid expansion include a work requirement which may only affect “a very small cohort of current recipients,” and that “there may be room for a compromise between Republicans and Democratic Gov. Ralph Northam, a doctor who won a near-landslide victory last fall partly by promising to expand Medicaid.”

KENTUCKY’S MEDICAID PREMIUMS COULD HINDER EFFORTS TO ROLL BACK EXPANSION. [Modern Healthcare](#) (2/3, Meyer, Subscription Publication, 226K) reported that HHS’ approval of Kentucky’s Medicaid waiver “has garnered national attention for its controversial work requirement, but the state’s decision to charge all beneficiaries premiums has raised serious legal questions that could doom the policy.” The article said under this proposal, “Kentucky will have the highest Medicaid premiums and copayments in the nation, with premiums ranging up to 4% of income.” However, “a proposed class-action lawsuit challenges whether the CMS has the authority to let states impose any charges on low-income Medicaid enrollees.”

WEST VIRGINIA HOLDING PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING PROPOSED BAN ON USE OF MEDICAID FUNDS FOR NEARLY ALL ABORTIONS. The [Charleston \(WV\) Gazette-Mail](#) (2/3, Beck, 20K) reported that on Monday morning, West Virginia lawmakers will hold a public hearing regarding “a proposed ban of most Medicaid-funded abortions.” The article said House Bill 4012 seeks “to prevent Medicaid dollars from being spent on any abortions in West Virginia, except to save the life of the mother.” The piece added that South Dakota is the only other state which has passed similar legislation.

STATE SENATOR URGES VIRGINIA TO EXPAND MEDICAID. State senator Jennifer McClellan, D-Richmond, wrote in an op-ed for the [Richmond \(VA\) Times-Dispatch](#) (2/3, 396K) that some 240,000 Virginians cannot afford medical care and lack insurance. She said the ACA was created to address this issue. It allows states to expand Medicaid to cover such individuals. McClellan argued, “By expanding Medicaid, we bring home billions in federal funds to close this coverage gap – funds that are now going to other states. So far, Virginia has forfeited more than \$10 billion in federal funding. That’s millions of dollars daily.”

AMERIGROUP TO BEGIN ACCEPTING IOWA MEDICAID PATIENTS AGAIN IN MAY. The [Des Moines \(IA\) Register](#) (2/2, Leys, 334K) reported that Iowa’s “beleaguered Medicaid program” received some encouraging news on Friday when the Amerigroup management company informed “officials that it could start taking on more Iowa members.” It “is one of two private companies managing Iowa’s \$5 billion Medicaid program.” When a third company stopped covering Medicaid patients last year, Amerigroup said it could not handle more patients. But the company has changed its mind, and says that it will begin accepting Medicaid patients again in May.

MISSISSIPPI LAWMAKERS LAUDED FOR TAKING STEPS TO REDUCE MEDICAID COSTS, IMPROVE QUALITY. Contributor Lynn Evans wrote in a [Jackson \(MS\) Clarion Ledger](#) (2/3, 257K) op-ed that the two “Medicaid chairmen in the Mississippi Legislature have sent bills to their respective chambers designed to increase the quality of care for Medicaid recipients, as well as decrease costs.” The measures also “focus on preventive care and on decreasing high cost medical expenses like emergency room visits and hospital readmissions.” Evans says “it is welcome news that state leaders seem poised to take the more positive approach to stabilizing Medicaid costs.”

KANSAS GOVERNOR'S "NEW DAY" CARRIES OVER BROWNBACK'S POLICIES. The [AP](#) (2/3, Hanna) reported that Kansas Gov. Jeff Colyer (R) is likely to carry over former Gov. Sam Brownback's (R) policy positions, despite pledging a "new day" when he took office Wednesday. The AP compared Colyer's statements to the prior governor's stances on abortion restriction, concealed carry laws, public school funding, and Medicaid work requirements and expansion.

OPINION: "ABLE-BODIED" IMPLIES TAKING MEDICAID FROM THOSE WHO "DON'T DESERVE IT." Emily Badger and Margot Sanger-Katz wrote in the [New York Times](#) (2/3, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) "The Upshot" blog that even though the term "able-bodied" is "now everywhere among government programs for the poor," it is "not truly a demographic label" because "there is no standard for physical or mental ability that makes a person able." The authors traced the 400 year history of the "political" phrase that "has consistently implied another negative: The able-bodied could work, but are not working (or working hard enough)," and, as a result, "they don't deserve our aid." The authors concluded that the term is being used by politicians "to imply that the newest group of people who receive Medicaid don't deserve it."

OPINION: LOUISIANA SHOULD IMPOSE MEDICAID WORK REQUIREMENTS TO SOLVE BUDGET SHORTFALL. Chris Jacobs, senior fellow with the Pelican Institute, wrote in the [Baton Rouge \(LA\) Advocate](#) (2/2, 46K) that the "explosion" in Medicaid enrollment in Louisiana should not have "come as a surprise" to Gov. John Bel Edwards and it puts the state's budget into "peril." Jacobs argued that as Medicaid takes up a greater share of the budget, other programs – for example, the state's program for individuals with developmental disabilities – can be crowded out. Jacobs recommended that the state "start phasing out the Medicaid expansion to the able-bodied."

ANALYSIS: ARKANSAS LAWMAKER'S GUILTY PLEA COULD IMPACT MEDICAID REAUTHORIZATION. Andrew Demillo wrote in an analysis piece for the [AP](#) (2/3) that Arkansas state Sen. Jake Files' (R) guilty plea for "pocketing thousands of state dollars intended for a sports complex" may have created a problem for proponents of hybrid Medicaid expansion. There are now three vacancies in the Senate after his departure and the chamber could be short of the 27 needed to reauthorize the program. Gov. Asa Hutchinson (R) "acknowledged the challenge he'll face while pushing for the program's reauthorization when legislators convene next week for a session focused on the state's budget."

ARKANSAS PHARMACISTS URGE LEGISLATORS TO SOLVE LOWER REIMBURSEMENT CHANGES. [KAIT-TV](#) Jonesboro, AR (2/2, Smithson, 12K) reported Arkansas pharmacists aired their "frustrations" over lower reimbursement rates to lawmakers last week. Under the state's federal Medicaid expansion program, Arkansas Works, some pharmacists claim that they are losing money on each prescription because they are not reimbursed at cost. Another hearing on the issue is scheduled for "sometime next week."

NORTH CAROLINA LAWMAKERS SLOW TO EXPAND MEDICAID, EVEN WITH WORK REQUIREMENT APPROVAL. The [Winston-Salem \(NC\) Journal](#) (2/5, Craver, 158K) reports that even though the federal government has approved a work requirement for Medicaid recipients, the Republican-controlled North Carolina "General Assembly remains in no hurry to move forward with Medicaid expansion." The "Carolina Cares" legislation includes a work requirement, but the bill "has not appeared on either chamber's agenda for the special session after not advancing out of committee during the regular 2017 session." The Journal says that "most" Republican legislative leaders have called Medicaid expansion a "non-starter" and many insist that the federal government "may not be able to keep its pledge of covering 90 percent of the administrative costs of expansion."

Health & Medical News:

FLU SEASON COULD COST BUSINESSES \$15.4 BILLION IN LOST PRODUCTIVITY, ANALYSIS SUGGESTS. [USA Today](#) (2/2, Witsil, 7.88M) reported that the flu season has caused

so many illnesses that US businesses could see a loss of \$15.4 billion in productivity, based on a new estimate issued Friday by Challenger, Gray & Christmas. The "prominent employment consulting firm" raised its earlier estimates by 64 percent. By comparison, the company estimated in 2014 that the productivity losses due to illness would reach \$7 billion. The piece added that CDC officials say flu cases are widespread in 49 states.

SEN. MARKEY CALLS FOR \$1 BILLION INVESTMENT TO DEVELOP UNIVERSAL FLU VACCINE. The [AP](#) (2/2) reported Sen. Edward Markey (D-MA) called for \$1 billion in increased spending to develop a universal flu vaccine. A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report released Friday said that one of every 14 physician and clinic visits are for the flu, which is "the highest level since the swine flu pandemic in 2009."

FLU PANDEMIC IN 1918 EXACERBATED BY WORLD WAR I. The [Washington Post](#) (2/3, Halsey, 14.56M) reported on the impact of 1918 flu pandemic, which "is estimated to have killed 50 to 100 million worldwide." The Post chronicled the onset of the outbreak, which was preempted by the US' focus on World War I, causing the virus to blossom across the nation.

KENTUCKY RECORDS 100 FLU-RELATED DEATHS. The [AP](#) (2/2) reported Kentucky public health officials said that the state has had 100 flu-related deaths so far this season, at least four of whom have been children. Last year, the state had 76 deaths in total.

OHIO OFFICIALS SAY THERE HAVE BEEN 8,600 HOSPITALIZATIONS FOR FLU. [WHIO-TV](#) Dayton, OH (2/4, Stewart, 112K) reports Ohio Department of Health officials say that hospitalizations from the flu dropped by 25 percent during the week ending January 27, but more people went to the state's emergency rooms than the prior week. There have been more than 8,600 hospitalizations in the state since October 1 which have been influenza-associated. Three children have died in Ohio this season.

CONNECTICUT'S FLU DEATHS RISE TO 52 AFTER 20 DIE IN ONE WEEK. The [AP](#) (2/2) reported Connecticut's flu death total reached 52 after officials said in an update Thursday that the state counted 20 deaths in a single week. The state Department of Public Health said the virus is widespread, and more than 1,000 people have been hospitalized for the flu this season.

ALABAMA HEALTH OFFICIALS INVESTIGATING FLU-RELATED DEATHS. The [Washington Times](#) (2/3, 327K) reported Alabama health officials are investigating 54 flu-related deaths, one of which was a child. The Times said the Center for Disease Control says the hospitalization rate is 41.9 people per 100,000 – "up from fewer than 37 from the week before."

SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTS TWICE THE NUMBER OF FLU DEATHS IN ONE WEEK. The [Sumter \(SC\) The Item](#) (2/4, Robins, 54K) reports South Carolina's flu deaths "almost doubled in one week," with the number of deaths rising to 38 between January 21 and 27, according to data from the state Department of Health and Environmental Control. The article says, "Compared to the previous week, the number of reported hospitalizations increased by 129 (27.3 percent), and the number of reported deaths increased by six (25 percent)." The season has yielded 84 deaths so far.

CALIFORNIA'S FLU DEATHS RISE TO 127 BUT SEASON IS SLOWING, OFFICIALS SAY. The [Santa Cruz \(CA\) Sentinel](#) (2/2, May, Green, 68K) reported California recorded 30 more flu deaths last week, "more than the 23 reported the week earlier"; but officials say flu activity is dwindling. The state Department of Public Health, which released the new data Friday, "said the 30 deaths involved people aged 64 or younger" and that they bring the state's death toll to 127 for residents under the age of 65.

FLU CONTINUES TO STRIKE PENNSYLVANIA, NEW JERSEY. The [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) (2/2, Burling, 951K) reported the federal CDC released new data Friday indicating that the flu season "continued to intensify last week," mirroring findings by New Jersey and Pennsylvania health

departments. Pennsylvania's report showed "a sharp increase in flu activity," and similarly to the CDC's finding that pediatric deaths rose by 17 last week, the state counted 18 more deaths, bringing Pennsylvania's season total to 65. For its part, New Jersey is seeing "really high levels right now," state epidemiologist Tina Tan said, with one pediatric death reported because the state only counts flu deaths among children.

PEOPLE SEEK FLU TESTING AT PHARMACIES AS 42 STATES SEE "HIGH" FLU ACTIVITY.

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (2/4, story 5, 1:45, Llamas, 14.63M) reported the CDC is counting high flu activity in 42 states – "three more than a week ago." ABC added that with so many sick, some people "are turning to pharmacies for rapid flu tests," although one physician interviewed for the segment advised that "it's best to go into your doctor's office."

RESEARCHERS SEEK COLLEGE STUDENTS' HELP IN PINPOINTING FLU SPREAD ON

CAMPUSES. [NPR](#) (2/2, Simmons-Duffin, 2.4M) reported researchers are leading a study to help track flu transmission by examining the virus' spread among college students. Researchers are using a "a crazy-looking, Rube-Goldberg-like contraption known as the Gesundheit machine" which students sit inside to collect information about the virus they carry, after which researchers "use the student's contacts to try to figure out how infections spread from person to person."

HOSPITALS FACE CLINICAL, FINANCIAL CHALLENGES OF SEVERE FLU SEASON.

[Modern Healthcare](#) (2/3, Johnson, Subscription Publication, 226K) reported that during this severe flu season, hospitals are dealing with "both financial and clinical challenges" which has left many of them "overwhelmed, forcing some to set up triage tents outside of emergency departments." The flu season affects their bottom lines because reimbursements for medical admissions tend to be lower than surgical admission; plus, the flu tends to affect older populations who are more likely to have complicated stays or existing health conditions.

FLU MAY BE SPREAD BY INFECTED PERSON'S BREATHING, STUDY SUGGESTS.

The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (2/3, 1.17M) reported a [study](#) published last month in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences suggests that the flu can be passed through contact with an infected person's breathing. Researchers investigated participants over four months, finding, as one researcher said, "that flu cases contaminated the air around them with infectious virus just by breathing, without coughing or sneezing."

EXPERTS CONSIDER WISDOM OF REPLACING HAND SHAKES WITH A LIBERIAN

"ELBOW BUMP" DURING FLU SEASON. [NPR](#) (2/3, Silver, 2.4M) reported that when Ebola broke out in Liberia in 2014, many were "afraid to shake hands and embrace in the customary way" and resorted to bumping elbows as a way to reduce the spread of the virus. Experts say that as much as 80 percent of cold, flu, and upper respiratory infections are spread by hands. While one expert said hand-shaking is probably "mild risk," it would be a "smart thing" to do an elbow bump instead.

HEALTHCARE IN US VIRGIN ISLANDS REMAINS IN A CRITICAL STATE. On its "Weekend Edition Sunday" program, [NPR](#) (2/4, Allen, 2.4M) reported that healthcare in the US Virgin Islands "remains in a critical state, five months after Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria pummeled the region." NPR reported that the only hospitals on the islands of St. Thomas and St. Croix were both badly damaged, and neither has fully recovered.

ACCUMULATION OF TAU PROTEIN IN WOODPECKERS' BRAINS RESEMBLES THAT FOUND IN ATHLETES WHO HAVE SUFFERED HEAD TRAUMA, STUDY SUGGESTS.

The [Washington Post](#) (2/2, Guarino, 14.56M) reported researchers found that the accumulation of tau protein in the brains of woodpeckers resembles that "found in athletes with head trauma." The [findings](#) were published online in PLOS One.

NPR INTERVIEWS CANCER PATIENT WHO IS OPPOSED TO "RIGHT-TO-TRY" BILL. In an interview on "Weekend Edition," [NPR](#) (2/3, 2.4M) host Scott Simon interviewed Michael Becker, a

cancer patient who is opposed to the "right-to-try" bill. During the interview, Becker said that the Food and Drug Administration's Compassionate Use program already provides access to experimental drugs for terminally ill patients, and that the right-to-try bill would simply remove the FDA from the process, which could put vulnerable patients at risk.

BILL WOULD MAKE NEW JERSEY FIRST STATE TO BAN MENTHOL CIGARETTES. The [AP](#) (2/4, Shipkowski) reported the New Jersey Assembly's Health and Senior Services Committee approved a bill that would ban the sale of menthol cigarettes, and the measure will next be considered by the Appropriations Committee. Should the proposed legislation become law, then New Jersey would be the first state to ban the sale of menthol cigarettes.

FEDERAL POLICY AFFECTS PHYSICIANS' PARTICIPATION IN MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAMS. The [Washington Post](#) (2/2, A1, Hendrix, 14.56M) reported Attorney General Jeff Sessions' announcement that he planned to enforce federal law in states that have legalized medical marijuana has contributed to many physicians being "wary" of recommending the drug to patients. After Sessions announced earlier this year that he would give federal prosecutors more discretion to prosecute those involved with medical marijuana, some physicians who had registered for Maryland's new medical marijuana program backed out.

CHILDREN IN DAYCARE MAY NOT LEARN ABOUT SUN SAFETY, STUDY SUGGESTS. [Reuters](#) (2/2, Rapaport) reported researchers found that children in daycare "may not always learn about sun safety because their teachers are more focused on lessons about" other health matters. Dr. Henry Lim, the president of the American Academy of Dermatology, said that "teachers need to be educated about the long term side effects of sun exposure. Aside from sunburn, teachers obviously would not observe the skin aging and skin cancers in their students; therefore, education is needed." The [findings](#) were published in JAMA Dermatology.

COLUMNIST: PHARMACEUTICAL INVESTORS ARE TOO FOCUSED ON TAX RATES RIGHT NOW. Max Nisen wrote in his [Bloomberg Business](#) (2/2, 2.9M) column that investors in pharmaceutical stocks are focused on companies' projected tax rates rather than fundamentals. Nisen argued that "perhaps once tax-cut fever abates a bit, investors will manage to focus" more on critical information, such as the results of recent clinical trials.

ASTRAZENECA BEATS EXPECTATIONS IN REVENUE AND EARNINGS PER SHARE. [Reuters](#) (2/2, Hirschler) reported AstraZeneca "expects a return to drug sales growth in 2018 as new medicines win market share and the group puts patent losses behind it, although the need to invest in launches will weigh on profit this year." The company "has suffered the industry's biggest patent cliff since 2012."

[Fierce Pharma](#) (2/2, Helfand) reported AstraZeneca "delivered a pair of fourth-quarter beats" with "overall revenue past the \$5.52 forecast to \$5.78 billion," and "earnings per share hit \$1.30, blowing away 80-cent predictions."

AstraZeneca Reaches Deals With Chinese Companies To Expand Business In China. [Reuters](#) (2/2, Hirschler) reported AstraZeneca has reached agreements with Alibaba and Tencent in order to expand its business in China. The article pointed out that AstraZeneca's sales in China increased 30% last quarter, and CEO Pascal Soriot said he expects sales to continue increasing there.

MERCK'S EARNINGS BEAT ESTIMATES BECAUSE OF LOWER TAXES THAT MADE UP FOR LOWER SALES. [Reuters](#) (2/2, Erman, Mishra) reported Merck & Co. "beat analysts' estimate for fourth-quarter earnings on Friday" because of "lower taxes," which partially offset "weaker-than-expected sales as some of its products face increasing competition."

RIGHT-TO-TRY IS A CONTROVERSIAL IDEA IN HEALTHCARE. A greater than 3,800-word piece in the [Politico](#) (2/2, Karlin-Smith, 2.44M) "The Agenda" blog reported that right-to-try is a

controversial idea in healthcare. The article reported that supporters claim “is a welcome last chance for suffering patients” who could be harmed by “government overreach,” while opponents claim it is a way for pharmaceutical companies to reduce their liability to sick patients and undermine the authority of the Food and Drug Administration.

SEN. JOHNSON URGES HOUSE TO PASS RIGHT-TO-TRY BILL. The [Washington Times](#) (2/2, Miller, 327K) reported Sen. Ron Johnson (R-WI) urged the House to pass a right-to-try bill following President Trump’s State of the Union address during which he endorsed the bill. Johnson said, “The president has made it clear he supports giving terminally ill patients the ‘Right to Try.’ Hopefully, the House will pass the Trickett Wendler, Frank Mongiello, Jordan McLinn and Matthew Bellina Right-to-Try Act immediately so that President Trump can sign it into law and give terminally ill patients the right to hope.”

MANY HOSPITALS ESTABLISHING SPECIALIZED EDS FOR ELDERLY PATIENTS. The [AP](#) (2/3, Johnson) reported that a growing number of hospitals are establishing specialized emergency department designed to help elderly patients avoid hospital visits, which can sometimes be harmful. There is now an accreditation program for such EDs, and Dr. Kevin Biese, “who leads the accreditation push for the American College of Emergency Physicians,” said, “We want to have at least 50 certified hospitals by the end of 2018.”

DOGS MORE LIKELY TO BITE PEOPLE WHO ARE FEELING ANXIOUS, STUDY SUGGESTS. [Newsweek](#) (2/3, Matthews, 1.46M) reported researchers found that dogs may be more likely to bite people who are feeling anxious. The [findings](#) were published online in the Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health. Also covering the story was the [New York Daily News](#) (2/2, Dziemianowicz, 3.5M).

HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ENDORSES PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE HEALTH PLANS WITH PRESCRIPTION DRUG DATA BEFORE REGULATORY APPROVAL. [STAT](#) (2/2, Silverman, 42K) reported that a US House subcommittee recently endorsed a proposal “to provide health plans with key data about their medicines before regulatory approval.” Drugmakers say that by providing this data, “health plans can get a jump on making budget decisions that can take weeks or months.”

SAFETY CONCERNS WITH SANOFI’S DENGUE VACCINE CASTING DOUBT ONTO OTHER VACCINES IN DEVELOPMENT. [STAT](#) (2/2, Branswell, 42K) reported that evidence that Sanofi’s Dengvaxia dengue vaccine “poses a safety risk to people who have never before been infected with the disease has cast a chill over a critically important but risky field of vaccine development.” According to STAT, although there are “several other dengue vaccines...in the pipeline,” safety issues with Sanofi’s vaccine “are now generating questions about the others.”

GOOGLE’S DEEPMIND DEVELOPS AI DIAGNOSTIC FOR EYE DISEASES. The [Financial Times](#) (2/4, Ram, Subscription Publication, 1.34M) reports that Google’s DeepMind has developed a method to use artificial intelligence to diagnose eye diseases by evaluating medical images.

CDC: DESPITE REDUCTIONS IN SMOKING RATE, 38 MILLION PEOPLE STILL SMOKE IN US. The [Washington Post](#) (2/2, Searing, 14.56M) reported that although “fewer Americans smoke cigarettes today than in decades past,” about 38 million people “still smoke daily or some of the time, according to a new report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.” Moreover, people who still smoke “reportedly puff away on fewer cigarettes each day than before.”

ALCOHOL MAY HELP BRAIN CLEAN ITSELF OUT, MOUSE STUDY SUGGESTS. [Newsweek](#) (2/2, Sheridan, 1.46M) reported that a study in mice suggests that “a little bit of alcohol might help your brain clean itself.” The [findings](#) were published in Scientific Reports.

[CNBC](#) (2/2, Berger, 3.09M) reported that researchers found “when mice were exposed to low

levels of alcohol consumption – comparable to two-and-a-half drinks per day – they showed less inflammation in their brains and a more efficient waste removal process, compared to mice who were not exposed to alcohol.” CNBC pointed out that “consuming alcohol in moderation can also lower mortality risks from all causes, including cardiovascular disease, a study published” last year “In the Journal of the American College of Cardiology found.”

TENNESSEE AMONG 11 STATES CONFIRMING FIRST HUMAN INFECTIONS OF RAT VIRUS. [WLOS-TV](#) Asheville, NC (2/3, 80K) reported that Tennessee is among 11 states to become “home to the first known cases of humans infected by a rat virus,” the CDC announced recently after health departments in Tennessee and Wisconsin traced cases of an unspecified illness to rats. The piece said a Tennessee mother and her daughter became infected with “what’s called Seoul virus” due to pet rats, with symptoms including with “chills, anorexia, nausea, and blood in her urine.” A Wisconsin resident who also had contact with rats experienced similar conditions during the same time period.

TEXAS SCIENTISTS TO TEST THEORY THAT EXERCISE CAN PREVENT ALZHEIMER’S. The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (2/4, Rice, 1.17M) reports that scientists from UT Southwestern Medical Center and Texas Health Resources are seeking 160 seniors to volunteer to consider being part of a \$15 million study on whether fitness can prevent Alzheimer’s disease. The article explains that around “half of those who join the study locally will be randomly assigned to have their gym memberships paid for and to be matched with an exercise physiologist who will personalize their exercise programs and visit them regularly to keep them on track.”

PARENTS NEED TO DISCUSS TATTOO SAFETY WITH THEIR KIDS, NURSE SAYS. In a perspective piece in the [Washington Post](#) (2/2, 14.56M) “On Parenting” blog, registered nurse Lynn Mohr, PhD, wrote, “Thirty-eight states have laws prohibiting minors from obtaining a tattoo without” permission from their parents. Now, “with the cultural acceptance of tattoos becoming younger, we need to have conversations at home and in the community about health and safety to prevent complications.” Last year, “the American Academy of Pediatrics released guidelines for providing care to [adolescents and young adults seeking body modifications](#) such as tattooing, piercing and scarification.” Mohr suggested that readers “adapt these tips for [their] own family.”

EXPERTS URGING FACEBOOK TO SHUT DOWN MESSENGER KIDS APP. The [CBS Weekend News](#) (2/4, story 9, 2:05, Quijano, 11.17M) reported, “About 100 health experts are urging Facebook to shut down its new Messenger Kids app,” claiming that it is “harmful to a child’s development.” CBS News correspondent Jericka Duncan talked to experts who claim children should be making friends face-to-face in real life. Some experts even contend that social media use can lead to depression, poor body image, and even suicide.

METHYLPHENIDATE TREATMENT IN CHILDREN WITH AD/HD MAY IMPROVE ACADEMIC PRODUCTIVITY MORE THAN ACCURACY, META-ANALYSIS SUGGESTS. [MD Magazine](#) (2/2, Bender) reports that methylphenidate “treatment in children with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder” (AD/HD) may improve “academic productivity more than accuracy,” researchers concluded after conducted a “meta-analysis of more than three decades of research.” The [findings](#) were published online Jan. 20 in European Child & Adolescent Psychiatry.

KETAMINE OFFERING HOPE TO PEOPLE SUFFERING FROM DEPRESSION, SUICIDAL THOUGHTS. The [CBS Weekend News](#) (2/4, story 10, 2:55, Quijano, 11.17M) reported that ketamine “is offering new hope to people who suffer from severe depression and suicidal thoughts.” CBS News correspondent Paula Reid explained that “ketamine is being provided legally off-label to treat depression at an estimated 250 clinics across the US.” In addition, according to Reid, “researchers found the drug was significantly more effective than a commonly used sedatives in reducing suicidal thoughts in depressed patients. The effects lasted up to six weeks.”

CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY REMISSIONS CAN BE ROBUST, STUDY SAYS. [TIME](#) (2/2,

Park, 5.33M) reported on a study published in the New England Journal of Medicine, detailing who is most likely to benefit from CAR-T cell therapies approved last year by the Food and Drug Administration to treat certain leukemias and lymphomas. TIME reported Dr. Jae Park, lead author of the research and assistant attending physician at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, studied 53 people with acute lymphoblastic leukemia, finding "that determining how much cancer a person has before getting the treatment could be a good indicator of who will respond best to the therapy." The findings also confirm "that using the treatment earlier in people's disease, when their bodies and immune systems are theoretically stronger, might lead to more sustained remissions," the piece explains.

COFFEE IN CALIFORNIA MAY SOON COME WITH CANCER WARNINGS. [Newsweek](#) (2/3, Sheridan, 1.46M) reported that the recent warning that a chemical byproduct in coffee can cause cancer is the result of the California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986. David Roe, the lawyer who help write Proposition 65 which brought about the act by ballot vote, said it "has caused an extraordinary amount of change" and "has resulted in safer products." According to Sam Delson, a spokesperson for the California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, "Maybe there's a feeling in the public that everything causes cancer," adding, "But there are strict criteria for inclusion on the list. Many chemicals are considered and not listed. And sometimes they're removed from the list as new evidence emerges." The piece notes that Monsanto is challenging the inclusion of its pesticide product on that list.

Additional reporting by the [Washington Post](#) (2/2, Carman, 14.56M).

STUDY SUGGESTS GOING OUTSIDE MAY ALTER BRAIN ACTIVITY. [TIME](#) (2/2, Ducharme, 5.33M) reported a new study published in the journal Brain Research suggests that being outdoors alters brain activity. The study authors monitored brain activity of 12 people who were directed to press a button when they heard one of two sounds. The task was administered in a "dim, quiet lab," and then while riding a bike outside along the street. The study found that when the people were outside, "their brains weren't responding as robustly to the task at hand, perhaps because their attention was taxed by competing stimuli." In addition, a particular "type of brain wave seen when the mind is at rest or meditating, which is commonly observed in the lab, all but disappeared in fresh air."

EDITORIAL: LACK OF OVERSIGHT ENABLED RISKY STUDY ON SYNTHETIC HORSEPOX VACCINE. A [Washington Post](#) (2/3, 14.56M) editorial described as "worrisome" a recently published [paper](#) on Jan. 19 described a scientific paper that described an experiment in which researchers synthesized the horsepox virus "to see if the synthesized virus could be useful in making a safer smallpox vaccine." The Post cautioned that the "study could give terrorists or rogue states a recipe to reconstitute the smallpox virus, known as variola." Also troubling, the Post said, is that the study was conducted "unilaterally, without a broader discussion of the merits beforehand," underscoring how few oversight mechanisms there are "when experiments are done with private funding." The paper urged the US to expand its restrictions on dual-use research to privately-funded experiments, and said the World Health Organization "should be given a stronger oversight role, too."

COLUMNIST SAYS INTERNET PERPETUATES HEALTH ANXIETY. [Washington Post](#) (2/2, 14.56M) columnist Emily Sohn wrote about the ways in which the Internet can perpetuate health anxiety. Sohn said that many people turn to the Internet to search for their symptoms, which "can magnify the pool of potential problems to worry about, and studies suggest that people who are prone to health anxiety are most vulnerable to getting sucked in." She added that people with health anxiety "also tend to jump to catastrophic outcomes when symptoms arise," and "may seek out information that confirms their worst suspicions."

COFFEE CONSIDERED MOSTLY BENEFICIAL, ANALYSES INDICATE. The [Washington Post](#) (2/2, Powell, 14.56M) reported University of Catania in Italy nutritional epidemiologist Giuseppe Grosso analyzed 127 meta-analyses of coffee consumption and found that no studies showed a

"convincing" level of evidence, but several found "probable" evidence that coffee-drinking is associated with a decreased risk of many common cancers, "with a 2 to 20 percent reduction in risk, depending on the cancer type." However, some studies showed pregnant women had higher instances of miscarriage when consuming coffee during pregnancy.

RESEARCHERS FOCUSING ON IMPORTANCE OF INFANTS' EXPOSURE TO

MICROORGANISMS. Jane E. Brody writes in the [New York Times](#) (2/5, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) that research suggests "cesarean deliveries and limited breast-feeding can distort the population of microorganisms in a baby's gut and may explain the unchecked rise of worrisome health problems in children and adults, including asthma, allergies, celiac disease, Type 1 diabetes and obesity." Brody explains, "Babies are exposed to some organisms in utero, but the organisms encountered during birth and the first months of life have the greatest influence on those that become permanent residents in their guts." As a result, "a growing number of women whose babies are delivered by cesarean are requesting that medical staff transfer microbes from the mother's vagina to their infants soon after birth" in a process called "vaginal seeding." An "expert committee" of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists warned, however, "At this time, vaginal seeding should not be performed outside the context of an institutional review board-approved research protocol until adequate data regarding the safety and benefit of the process become available."

MORE TEENS IDENTIFY AS TRANSGENDER THAN PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT, STUDY

SUGGESTS. The [AP](#) (2/4, Tanner) reports a new [study](#) published in *Pediatrics* analyzed almost 81,000 students in ninth and 11th grade and found that nearly 2,200, or nearly three percent, identified as transgender or gender nonconforming. The study found that these children reported worse mental and physical health than other kids, echoing results seen in previous research. Dr. Daniel Shumer, a specialist in transgender medicine at the University of Michigan, wrote in an accompanying opinion in *Pediatrics* that the study supports other research suggesting that earlier counts of the trans population "have been underestimated by orders of magnitude." He said that the higher numbers should serve as a lesson to schools and physicians to abandon limited views of gender.

IDAHO SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORTS OUTBREAK OF WHOOPING COUGH. The [AP](#) (2/2) said that Idaho public health officials have reported an outbreak of whooping cough at multiple schools in a South Idaho town. The Kimberly School District on Monday was notified by the South Central Public Health District of multiple cases of the infectious disease.

TRAINING PROGRAM AIMS TO PREVENT SEXUAL ASSAULT AT MINNESOTA HIGH

SCHOOLS. The [AP](#) (2/5, Moen) reports that training at high schools in Minnesota is aiming to prevent sexual assault. The article highlights a program launched in 2007 "developed by the national nonprofit Futures Without Violence" that "aims to prevent relationship abuse, harassment and sexual assault." In Minnesota, "high school coaches are required to undergo online training that covers these topics. Participating in outside programs like Coaching Boys Into Men is voluntary, but the city of Minneapolis secured a grant from the Centers For Disease Control to offer the training to local high schools, starting with North High football."

Global Health:

GATES, GAWANDE PUSH HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS IN DEVELOPING NATIONS TO COMBAT CHILD MORTALITY, IMPROVE VACCINATION RATES.

CNBC (2/3, Barry, 3.09M) reported on its website that Microsoft Founder Bill Gates and surgeon-writer-physician Dr. Atul Gawande are "figuring out how to solve complex health care issues on a global scale, from dispelling myths about vaccines to improving child mortality rates." Gates said "a lot more can be done" to improve child mortality rates, which have dropped by 65 percent for those under five years of age since 1990, and added during a CNBC interview that "getting the personnel to do the right things, clearly we've seen in many cases, you can cut [childhood mortality rates] in half by good practices." Gates and Gawande also said "it's important for people to realize the success

vaccines have had in the world, and when you take them away, diseases that were once wiped out will make a re-occurrence."

"MODICARE" TO COST ABOUT \$1.7B ANNUALLY, SOURCES SAY. [Reuters](#) (2/2, Kalra) reported that Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "plan to provide health insurance for about half the country's population would require an estimated 110 billion rupees (\$1.7 billion) in federal and state funding each year, sources familiar with the matter said." So-called "Modicare" would "provide 100 million families, or about 500 million poor people, with [health coverage worth] 500,000 rupees per year for free treatment of serious ailments."

MOBILE CERVICAL CANCER CLINIC BRINGS RESOURCES TO RURAL COMMUNITIES. [NPR](#) (2/4, Roemer, 2.4M) reports on a mobile van in Burkina Faso that is equipped with a metal exam table, a nitrous oxide gas tank, and shelves stocked with cotton swabs and medical gloves that serves as a cervical cancer exam room on wheels. The article says low- and middle-income countries like Burkina Faso bear 70 percent of the global burden of cervical cancer and there is little access to screenings, especially in rural villages. The piece adds that programs such as mobile exam rooms are fighting to lower instances of cervical cancer by mobilizing prevention measures.

MOBILE APP MAPS HELP CONDOM DISPENSARIES IN PHILIPPINES TO COMBAT HIV. [Reuters](#) (2/2, Yi) reported that public health campaigners in the Philippines are using a smartphone app to send users to locations with condom dispensers to promote safe sex and break the stigma to fight the worsening HIV epidemic. The initiative, led by Save the Children and LoveYourself, has seen 30 dispensers set up in Manila and aims to expand to 150 locations across the country this year.

SANOFI WILL NOT REFUND PHILIPPINES FOR USED DENGUE VACCINE. The [Daily Mail](#) (2/4, 3.22M) reports that Sanofi on Monday informed the Philippines it would not refund the cost of used doses of a dengue vaccine after the vaccination program was suspended over health concerns. The Philippines previously asked Sanofi to refund a total of \$62 million spent on the public vaccination program after the company said the vaccine could worsen symptoms in some cases. Sanofi last month agreed to reimburse the Philippine government \$31 million for leftover doses of Dengvaxia, but said Monday it would not pay for doses that were already used.

National News:

INTEL COMMITTEE REPUBLICANS: RUSSIA PROBE TO CONTINUE DESPITE MEMO FINDINGS. The memo from Republicans on the House Intelligence Committee alleging surveillance abuses by the FBI was discussed at length on the Sunday talk shows and is the subject of heavy media coverage including the Sunday evening network newscasts and in print and online. Many reports highlight that while President Trump said in a [tweet](#) Saturday that the memo "totally vindicates" him, lawmakers of both parties said Sunday that the memo does not undermine special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation.

David Wright said on [ABC World News Tonight](#) (2/4, story 3, 2:15, Llamas, 14.63M) that while Trump "insists the newly released GOP memo 'totally vindicates' him, 'many Republicans on the House Intelligence Committee don't agree.'" The [Los Angeles Times](#) (2/4, King, 4.59M) reports that Trump's claim that the memo vindicates him "was undercut Sunday by several Republican lawmakers," and [The Hill](#) (2/4, Shelbourne, 2M) says Republicans "emphasized that the memo provided evidence of the Justice Department's abuse of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) in order to gain a warrant – rather than proof of the president's innocence from allegations of collusion."

The [Washington Post](#) (2/4, Viebeck, Harris, 14.56M) says "four Republican members of the House Intelligence Committee dismissed on Sunday the idea that the memo's criticism of how the FBI handled certain surveillance applications undermines the special counsel's work. Reps. Trey

Gowdy (S.C.), Chris Stewart (Utah), Will Hurd (Tex.) and Brad Wenstrup (Ohio) represented the committee on the morning political talk shows."

[Bloomberg News](#) (2/3, Wasson, 2.9M) reports that Gowdy told [CBS' Face The Nation](#), "There's going to be a Russia probe, even without a dossier." Stewart said on [Fox News Sunday](#) (2/4, 938K), "It doesn't end that need at all. ... It would be a mistake for anyone to suggest that the special counsel shouldn't complete his work." Hurd said on [ABC's This Week](#) (2/4, 2.72M), "I want to stress, Bob Mueller should be allowed to turn over every rock, pursue every lead so that we can have trust in knowing what actually the Russians did or did not do." Wenstrup told [CNN's State Of The Union](#) (2/4, 933K) that the memo is "a separate issue."

The [Washington Examiner](#) (2/4, Feldscher, 435K) reports that Gowdy said there could may be about five FBI employees who engaged in questionable conduct in the Russia investigation and that the entire bureau should not come under criticism. Gowdy said, "I have tremendous respect for the bureau, there are 30,000 employees, let's assume that there are five that engaged in conduct that we have questions about." Gowdy also said he hopes the release of the memo is a "oneoff." Said Gowdy, "I hope this is a one-off, that Congress takes this position but also hope it's a one-off that a [Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act] application contains errors and product that is funded by a political opponent. I hope that is a one-off."

The [Daily Caller](#) (2/4, Crowe, 499K) says Gowdy "dismissed Democrats' criticisms" of the memo. Gowdy "downplayed the concerns of the FBI and Democratic lawmakers; namely that the memo...might compromise intelligence methods and sources." Gowdy said, "But it's both the [former British spy Christopher] Steele dossier, and who paid for it, and whether or not it was vetted, but it's also what was not in it. This is an application to a court. So, I get that Adam Schiff and others are worried about what's not in my memo. ... I wish that they were equally concerned about what's not in the FISA application, which is a lot of really important information about the source, and its sub-sources, and the fact that he was hired by the DNC and the Clinton campaign, and the fact that he was biased against President Trump. That is all information that the – that the finder of fact is entitled to."

[The Hill](#) (2/4, Shelbourne, 2M) reports that House Intelligence Committee member Rep. Jim Himes "disputed the notion that the FISA application relied on the dossier." Himes told [CNN's State Of The Union](#), "Just because it was opposition research doesn't mean that it's wrong. In fact, we wouldn't pay a penny for opposition research if it is biased. ... I think when the facts are out here, this will turn out to be a very, very small and insignificant thing."

That sentiment was echoed by Democrats, the [AP](#) (2/4, Yen) reports. Asked on [ABC's This Week](#) (2/4, 2.72M) if the memo vindicates Trump, Rep. Adam Schiff, the ranking Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, said, "Of course, not at all." [Politico](#) (2/4, Griffiths, 2.44M) reports that Schiff told ABC, "The goal here really isn't to find out the answers from the FBI. ... The goal here is to undermine the FBI, discredit the FBI, discredit the Mueller investigation, do the president's bidding. ... I think it's very possible his staff worked with the White House and coordinated the whole effort with the White House."

Sen. Dick Durbin, asked on [CNN's State Of The Union](#) (2/4, Tapper, 933K) if the memo vindicates Trump, said, "No, of course it does not. The fact that the Republicans in the House refused to allow a minority report, the Democratic response to their memo is an indication that they're just bound and determined to continue to find ways to absolve this President from any responsibility."

Lawmakers Express Concerns About FBI. However, Gowdy was critical of the FBI's actions. The [Washington Times](#) (2/4, Howell, 327K) reports that he told [CBS' Face The Nation](#) (2/4, Brennan, 4.07M) that the FBI did not notify the FISA court that it was relaying on material in the Steele dossier when it sought a warrant to spy on Trump aide Carter Page, and that the judges would not have authorized and renewed the warrant were it not for that material. Gowdy said,

"They could have easily said it was the DNC and Hillary Clinton. That would have been really easy. ... It took longer to explain it the way they did, than if they just come right out and said, 'Hillary Clinton for America and DNC paid for it.' But they didn't do that." Gowdy added, "I would argue it's also somewhat unprecedented to rely on political opposition research to instruct and inform an application, and it's really bad precedent and unprecedented to not tell a court that a source has this level of bias."

Other lawmakers expressed similar concerns. Wright also reported on [ABC World News Tonight](#) (2/4, story 3, 2:15, Llamas, 14.63M) that Republicans "defend the release of that memo by saying it exposed a problem with the FISA warrant process." House Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes: "I think the American people understand that the FBI should not go to secret courts using information that was paid for by the Democrats to open up investigations and get warrants on people of the other political party. That's the type of stuff that happens in banana republics."

Rep. John Ratcliffe told [Fox News Sunday Morning Futures](#) (2/4, 1.55M), "The most important thing not just from the memo but from the underlying documents that I have seen is that full disclosures weren't made to the FISA court and why that's so important" is because "the FISA court unlike any other court in America including the Supreme Court doesn't hear both sides."

AP Analysis: Memo Fits Pattern Of Trump Attacks On Intel, Law Enforcement. The [AP](#) (2/4, Lemire, Miller) says Trump's decision to authorize the release of the memo "was extraordinary, yet part of a recent pattern" of "repeated broadsides against intelligence and law enforcement agencies." Trump has "work[ed] in tandem with some conservatives to lay the groundwork to either dismiss or discredit special counsel Robert Mueller." CNN senior political reporter Nia Malika Henderson said on [CNN Inside Politics](#) (2/4, 772K), "The ultimate goal is to play to a jury, a jury of Republican lawmakers, a jury of Republican voters and to sow reasonable doubt. If you look at what the President has been doing over the last many months about this investigation, calling it a witch hunt, saying there is no collusion, I think this is part of that and maybe one of the most effective parts so far."

Julie Pace of the AP said on [CNN Inside Politics](#) (2/4, 772K), "If you are someone in the White House, a Republican, a voter who is inclined to see the Russian investigation as a witch hunt, this is more fodder for your argument. If you believe that the Russia investigation is valid and should continue, this is more fodder for that argument. While we spent a week on this, while this has become the new focal point for the White House it does very little to change the overall dynamic for the President."

NYTimes Analysis: Sessions "Notably Silent" As Trump Attacks Justice Department. A [New York Times](#) (2/4, Benner, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) analysis says Attorney General Sessions' voice "has been notably silent" as the President "hammers away" at his department's credibility. As Trump "leads the most public and prolonged political attack on the department in history," Sessions "has been largely quiet and even yielding...a silence that breaks with a long tradition of attorneys general protecting the institution from such interference." The Times cites "current and former prosecutors" who say Sessions' "tepid response reflects efforts to appease Mr. Trump, even at the expense of morale among the department's employees, and has raised fears that prosecutors cannot depend on protection from political interference."

Democrats, Republicans Warn Trump Against Firing Rosenstein. The [Los Angeles Times](#) (2/4, King, 4.59M) also reports that Trump "reportedly told associates that the memo bolstered the case for ousting Deputy Atty. Gen. Rod Rosenstein," adding that Democrats and "some Republicans have warned that such a move could spark a constitutional crisis." Wright said on [ABC World News Tonight](#) (2/4, story 3, 2:15, Llamas, 14.63M), "Democrats say President Trump cannot use this issue as a pretext to fire the deputy attorney general or the special counsel."

In an op-ed for the [New York Times](#) (2/4, Subscription Publication, 12.8M), Eric Posner, a

professor at the University of Chicago Law School, argues that Trump “poses the greatest threat to constitutional norms since Nixon,” and calls on Congress to “pass a bill that grants the special counsel for-cause protection against firing by the president,” adding that “it should do so before it’s too late.”

Rep. Ted Lieu, asked on [MSNBC AM Joy](#) (2/4, 1.03M) how Congress would react if Trump were to fire Rosenstein, said, “First of all, I believe people would take the streets. I think impeachment proceedings would be talked about and hopefully would start. Keep in mind, nothing in this Nunes memo says Rod Rosenstein did anything wrong. If the President were to fire Rod Rosenstein, that would be yet another example of obstruction of justice and I hope the President doesn’t do that and we absolutely need to have the Democratic memo, which I have read, released to the American public.” CNN senior political reporter Nia Malika Henderson said on [CNN Inside Politics](#) (2/4, 772K), “You have to believe that [firing Rosenstein is] on the table. ... The President himself when asked basically said, you figure it out whether or not he still has confidence in Rosenstein or thought about firing him. If you just look at the President’s record, you would, you know, might conclude that it’s a reasonable expectation that he might move to remove Rod Rosenstein.”

FBI Hired Steele To Probe Trump, Fired Him For Lying About Media Leaks. Citing the memo, the [Washington Times](#) (2/4, Scarborough, 327K) reports that the FBI authorized payments to Steele but later fired him “for lying to agents about his covert leaks to the news media.” The memo, which is “the first official confirmation that the FBI hierarchy made a decision to start paying Mr. Steele and why the deal fell through,” shows that “the bureau was using Mr. Steele’s unverified Democratic Party-financed dossier not only to obtain a court-ordered wiretap on Trump volunteer Carter Page, but it also wanted a commitment to a longer-term financial agreement with the former British intelligence officer to continue investigating President Trump.” The Times that had Steele not lied about “feeding his discredited media to the press,” he “could have been investigating Mr. Trump from the postelection transition into his presidency.”

Mollie Hemingway of The Federalist said on [Fox News MediaBuzz](#) (2/4, 1.28M), “The press had built Steele up as a man of great credibility. They said the whole reason why the dossier was to be taken seriously or had been taken seriously within intelligence agencies and law enforcement was based on this man’s credibility. ... And here we learn that this guy was considered dishonest by the people who used his credibility to secure a wiretap and part of that dishonesty was related to how he had been talking to the media.” Kimberley Strassel argues in the [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/4, Subscription Publication, 6.29M) that the FBI should have known Steele was talking to the media and that the memo’s claim that it did not tell the FISA court means the agency was deceived by Steele, knew he was lying, didn’t look into the matter, or was too inept to see it.

Lieu Blasts GOP “Cowards” Who Do Not Criticize Trump Over Memo. The [Washington Times](#) (2/4, Morton, 327K) reports Rep. Ted Lieu argued in a tweet Sunday that Republican lawmakers who do not criticize Trump over the memo are worse than the “true believers.” In response to a [tweet](#) from “prominent ‘#NeverTrump’ neoconservative Bill Kristol,” Lieu [tweeted](#), “I know GOP Members who truly believe @FBI is a hotbed of liberalism & Uranium One is a scandal. I don’t fault true believers. But many GOP Members do not share those beliefs, yet enable Trump to smear our institutions. They are being cowards & history will judge them harshly.”

E.J. Dionne writes in the [Washington Post](#) (2/4, 14.56M) that the memo is a “blatant McCarthyite hit piece that breaks little new ground.” The memo “cherry-picks from troves of information to feed a dangerous narrative: Even if special counsel Robert S. Mueller III gets the goods on Trump – on Russian collusion, money laundering, obstruction of justice, or all three – the facts won’t matter because the inquiry was driven by partisanship.” Dionne adds that autocrats cannot prevail without “allies to give them cover. Thanks to House Republicans, our country has taken another step toward the chaos that autocrats thrive on.”

Kobach: Memo Reveals Scandal “Far More Sinister” Than Watergate. In an op-ed for

[Breitbart](#) (2/4, 1.45M), Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach writes that the memo “sheds light on a scandal that is strikingly similar to Watergate. Only it is far more sinister. ... In terms of magnitude and threat to the Republic, the current scandal makes Watergate pale in comparison.”

House Intel Panel To Consider Release Of Democrats’ Memo. [Reuters](#) (2/4, Landay) cites two sources who said the House Intelligence Committee on Monday will consider “whether to release the Democratic rebuttal” to the Republican memo. Democrats argue the GOP memo “memo mischaracterized highly sensitive classified information,” and their memo “is expected to outline what they see as flaws in the Republican document.” The [New York Times](#) (2/4, Fandos, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) says Democrats have “pressed for the release” of their memo, arguing that it “corrects mischaracterizations by the Republicans and adds crucial context to actions by the F.B.I. and the Justice Department.” Erroll Barnett reported on the [CBS Weekend News](#) (2/4, story 3, 2:05, Quijano, 11.17M) that if the panel votes to release the Democratic memo, Trump will decide “if and how it should be made public. Portions could be redacted, or it could be kept under wraps entirely.”

[Politico](#) (2/4, Schor, 2.44M) reports that Senate Minority Leader Schumer on Sunday called on President Trump to approve the release of a the Democrats’ memo. In a letter to the President, Schumer wrote, “I believe it is a matter of fundamental fairness that the American people be allowed to see both sides of the argument and make their own judgments.” Keeping the Democratic memo secret, Schumer wrote, “will confirm the American people’s worst fears that the release” of the GOP memo “was only intended to undermine Special Counsel Robert Mueller’s investigation.”

King Sees No Evidence Of Collusion. Rep. Peter King said on [Fox News Sunday Morning Futures](#) (2/4, Bartiromo, 1.55M), “The intelligence committee we have to finish our investigation of the collusion issue and I can tell you right now as far as I’m concerned there’s been no evidence of any collusion whatsoever.” King added, “I think the American people are going to see that really this has been 15 months of a sustained attack on President Trump by certain people in the intelligence community certain people in the FBI and what their motives are I’m not going to jump to that conclusion yet but certainly its been very improper conduct, very biased conduct.”

Priebus Says McCabe Told Him NYTimes Story On Russia Contacts Was “BS.” The [Daily Caller](#) (2/4, Ross, 499K) reports that former White House chief of staff Reince Priebus told [NBC’s Meet the Press](#) that then-FBI Deputy Director Andrew McCabe walked into his office last Feb. 14 “shut the door, and told him point-blank that a New York Times report about alleged contacts between Trump campaign aides and Russian intelligence was ‘BS.’” The meeting “has been the source of allegations that Priebus pressured McCabe to publicly knock down the report of repeated contacts with Russians.” However, Priebus said Sunday “that McCabe initiated the conversation about the Times article.” Priebus also said “that he never saw any evidence of collusion and that he never heard President Trump say that he wanted to fire Special Counsel Robert Mueller.”

Daily Caller: Fusion May Have Paid Ohr’s Wife To Get Access To DOJ. The [Daily Caller](#) (2/4, Rosiak, 499K) reports that Fusion GPS was paying Nellie Ohr, wife of deputy associate attorney general Bruce Ohr, “as part of its efforts to gather opposition research on Trump, and the official then brought that research to the FBI – raising the question of to what extent the firm may have been attempting to pay for heightened access to the criminal justice system, and whether they would have hired her absent her spousal connection.” The DC says that given the FBI’s “limited resources to deal with a firehouse of information,” people “seeking the FBI’s attention could potentially benefit from greasing the wheels in order to get info to the front of the queue and to a high level.”

Daily Caller Publishes Page Letter In Which He Claims To Be “Informal Adviser” To Kremlin Staff. The [Daily Caller](#) (2/4, Ross, 499K) reprints a letter Page “sent to an academic press in 2013 claiming that he served as an ‘informal advisor’ to Kremlin staff.” In the Aug. 2013

letter, Page wrote, "Over the past half year, I have had the privilege to serve as an informal advisor to the staff of the Kremlin in preparation for their Presidency of the G-20 Summit next month, where energy issues will be a prominent point on the agenda." After parts of the letter were [reported](#) by TIME magazine on Saturday, "Democrats seized on the TIME report of Page's letter saying that it added to the evidence that Page may have acted as an agent of Russia."

Mukasey Expresses Concern About Use Of Steele Dossier To Launch Mueller Probe. In an op-ed for the [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/4, Subscription Publication, 6.29M), former Attorney General Michael B. Mukasey writes that the letter from Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein appointing Mueller instructs him to "conduct the investigation confirmed by then-Director James Comey before the House Intelligence Committee on March 20, 2017," which covers "any links and/or coordination between the Russian government and individuals associated with the campaign of President Donald Trump," but Comey's investigation was a national security investigation not a criminal one and the terms links and coordination do not constitute a crime. Mukasey expresses concern that the Steele dossier, an opposition research document, was used to spark a national security probe that has evolved into several criminal ones.

IN PRE-SUPER BOWL STATEMENT, TRUMP SAID "WE PROUDLY STAND" FOR ANTHEM. [ABC World News Tonight](#) (2/4, story 8, 1:40, Llamas, 14.63M) reported that hours before Super Bowl LII got underway in Minneapolis, President Trump issued "an official statement seemingly calling for every player to stand." ABC's Eva Pilgrim: "The President putting out this statement: 'We hold them in our hearts and thank them for our freedom as we proudly stand for the National Anthem,' calling attention to servicemembers who aren't able to watch tonight's game. ... Players kneeling had appeared to die down in recent weeks after a series of meetings with the NFL, and some players. The President's comments tonight appearing to be a non-factor."

[Politico](#) (2/4, Griffiths, 2.44M) reports that Trump "not-so-subtly reminded the country of his opposition to NFL players who kneel during the national anthem," though the [Washington Examiner](#) (2/4, Siegel, 435K) reports that Trump "has been quiet about the issue in recent months." [Breitbart](#) (2/4, News, 1.45M) reports that no players from either the New England Patriots nor the Philadelphia Eagles "were kneeling or sitting during the national anthem." The [AP](#) (2/4, Superville) also briefly reported on the President's statement.

Trump Tweets Congratulations To Eagles. At 10:54 p.m., the President [tweeted](#), "Congratulations to the Philadelphia Eagles on a great Super Bowl victory!" However, [CNN](#) (2/5, Zaru) reported on its website that "several players have already indicated that they will not participate in the traditional White House visit, citing their opposition" to the President, with wide receiver Torrey Smith specifically citing "his disapproval of Trump's war against players who take a knee during the national anthem to protest racism."

Many Ignore Super Bowl In Response To Season Of Protests. [Breitbart](#) (2/4, Huston, 1.45M) reports, "More Americans than ever have decided to ignore the NFL's biggest game. ... Veterans are especially unhappy with the National Football League's constant indulgence of anti-American protests during the nation's song," with American Legion and VFW posts "boycotting" the event.

BLM Protesters Arrested After Blocking Minneapolis Light Rail. The [Washington Times](#) (2/4, Richardson, 327K) reports, "Minneapolis transit authorities arrested 17 Black Lives Matter protesters Sunday after they blocked a light-rail line taking Super Bowl ticketholders to the stadium." The protesters "called for 'divestment from police' and showed support for NFL players who have refused to stand for the national anthem in a protest against social injustice."

WTIMES ANALYSIS: TRUMP'S SPEECH PUSHED POPULAR GOALS STUCK IN CONGRESS. The [Washington Times](#) (2/4, Miller, 327K) writes that in his State Of The Union address, President Trump "didn't roll out big new initiatives," but did call "for help clearing the decks of several popular and bipartisan goals that have been stuck in Congress for years" such as "paid family leave, job training and a 'right to try' bill to give terminally ill patients access to

experimental drugs and treatments." But the Administration "faces the same obstacles that blocked many of these ideas in the past, including legislative gridlock that has intensified under Mr. Trump."

WSJournal Urges House To Advance Right-To-Try Legislation. In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/4, Subscription Publication, 6.29M) urges the House to advance right-to-try legislation that would allow patients with life-threatening diseases try treatments not approved by the FDA. The Journal says that House Energy and Chairman Greg Walden should stop sitting on the bill.

GOP OPTIMISTIC AFTER UPTICK IN RECENT MIDTERM ELECTION POLLING. A 1,300-word [The Hill](#) (2/4, Bolton, 2M) analysis says, "Republicans are feeling better about their prospects in the midterm elections, buoyed by recent polls that show their numbers improving." President Trump told GOP lawmakers, "I just looked at some numbers, you've even done better than you thought." NRCC Chairman Steve Stivers (R-OH) said, "The numbers are pretty good and that's one example of how things are getting better." The Hill further cites how "a Monmouth University Poll released Wednesday showed that Trump's approval rating had jumped 10 points compared to last month, while the Democratic advantage on the generic ballot had shrunk to two percentage points."

NYTIMES ANALYSIS: POWELL COMES TO FED WITH ECONOMY SHOWING "SIGNS OF STRAIN." The [New York Times](#) (2/4, Appelbaum, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) writes that Jerome Powell will become Federal Reserve chairman on Monday "as a half-decade of economic tranquility is beginning to show some signs of strain." The Times says Powell faces a "high wire" as he strives to keep the economy "in the safe space between overheating and recession. ... He has said that he plans to continue the Fed's gradual retreat from the economic stimulus campaign it mounted after the 2008 financial crisis, and markets have taken him at his word." But it is not clear how he would respond to a financial crisis.

Former Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers writes in the [Washington Post](#) (2/4, 14.56M) that "the first challenge facing the estimable" Powell "is working out how to achieve growth that is both adequate and financially sustainable. ... Except in the aftermath of recessions, it has been a long time since the US economy grew well with a stable financial foundation."

S&P 500 Companies Report Booming Earnings. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/4, Wursthorn, Driebusch, Subscription Publication, 6.29M) reports that roughly 80% of the companies in the S&P 500 that have reported Q4 earnings beat analyst expectations – the highest percentage in nearly a decade. S&P 500 companies are on track to grow revenue 7.5% and earnings 13% year on year.

PAYDAY LENDERS TO MARK GOOD YEAR WITH EVENT AT TRUMP GOLF CLUB. The [New York Times](#) (2/2, Rappeport, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) writes that "hundreds of members of the payday lending industry" will convene at the Trump National Doral Golf Club in Florida in April for their annual retreat, capping "a year in which the industry has gone from villain to victor, the result of a concentrated lobbying campaign that has culminated in the Trump administration's loosening regulatory grip on payday lenders and a far friendlier approach" by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

ADMINISTRATION PROPOSAL WOULD GIVE EMPLOYERS MORE CONTROL OVER TIPS. The [New York Times](#) (2/4, Scheiber, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) reports, "The Trump administration is moving to give restaurants and other employers more control over workers' tips," proposing undoing portions of an Obama-era regulation "that blocked employers from collecting tips and distributing them to anyone other than the workers who customarily receive them." The restaurant industry says the change would allow servers' tips to be shared "with so-called back-of-the-house workers like cooks and dishwashers," but critics "have denounced the plan as legalizing wage theft."

C-SPAN CALLER DENOUNCED TRUMP AS "TRAITOR" DURING GORKA APPEARANCE.

The [Washington Post](#) (2/4, Selk, 14.56M) recounts a viewer call to C-SPAN during an appearance by former White House adviser Sebastian Gorka, who, "per usual, was defending the president." The caller, a man from Michigan, said, "The elections in 2018 are perhaps the most consequential in our history, because we have to stop an impending dictatorship by this white supremacist, right-wing traitor. And Donald Trump, make no mistake, is a traitor. Along with everybody in his orbit." The Post writes, "Presumably he meant Gorka, who was now looking at his desk."

KIMMEL: TALK SHOW HOSTS ARE LIBERAL BECAUSE "IT REQUIRES A LEVEL OF INTELLIGENCE." The [Daily Caller](#) (2/4, Hasson, 499K) reports that during "a live event for liberal podcast 'Pod Save America,'" ABC's Jimmy Kimmel said, "It just so happens that almost every talk show host is a liberal and that's because it requires a level of intelligence." [Breitbart](#) (2/4, Kew, 1.45M) reports that Twitter users "accused Kimmel of being arrogant."

WPOST ANALYSIS: STAYS OF GERRYMANDERING DECISIONS DELAY ELECTION IMPACT. The [Washington Post](#) (2/4, Barnes, 14.56M) reports that recently, "Federal courts in Texas, North Carolina and Wisconsin found that either politics or intentional discrimination played an unacceptable role in drawing electoral lines and ordered new districts in place for the 2018 elections"; however, the US "Supreme Court stopped them all." The Post explains that the Supreme Court "justices have routinely told states found to be offenders that they do not have to immediately redraw the maps, which almost surely means they won't be in place for the 2018 elections." The Post highlights attorneys' frustration at the Supreme Court's delays in the years-long litigation.

WPOST A1 ANALYSIS: CALIFORNIA POISED TO SHIFT EVEN FARTHER LEFTWARD. On its front page, the [Washington Post](#) (2/4, A1, Wilson, 14.56M) looks at the leftward shift in California, where this year's campaigns "will showcase a younger generation of Democrats that is more liberal and personally invested in standing up to President Trump's Washington than those leaving office." Given the state's top-two primary system, the contests for governor, senator, and many other races "probably will feature a November ballot exclusively filled with Democrats." And "even some Republicans are concerned about the departure" of Gov. Jerry Brown, "who proved to be fiscally cautious after inheriting a state seven years ago in deep recession."

REPUBLICAN GUBERNATORIAL CHALLENGER'S AD IN ILLINOIS SPARKS OUTRAGE. [Politico](#) (2/4, Korecki, 2.44M) reports a new campaign ad by Republican state Rep. Jeanne Ives has "been denounced as anti-immigrant, 'racist,' 'sexist' and 'transphobic,'" and "is causing an uproar in Illinois, with leaders from both parties calling for its removal." Politico says the ad against Gov. Bruce Rauner (R) "taps just about every conservative bogeyman in Illinois politics, and every lightning-rod cultural issue." For example, one woman says in the ad, "Thank you [Gov. Rauner], for making all Illinois families pay for my abortions." Politico adds that "Republican Party Chair Tim Schneider called on Ives to pull the ad."

HOLOCAUST DENIER RUNS UNOPPOSED IN ILLINOIS GOP CONGRESSIONAL PRIMARY. The [Washington Post](#) (2/4, Wang, 14.56M) profiles Holocaust denier Arthur Jones, who is running for Illinois' 3rd Congressional District seat. Highlighting Jones' racist comments from his campaign website, the Post cites how in his most recent blog post, "Jones railed against 'Radical Leftists' and blamed them for starting racial violence in Charlottesville." The Post notes that "Jones is running unopposed in the Republican primary," but "his chances of winning the seat are extremely slim" due to the district's Democratic voters. According to the Anti-Defamation League, "Jones has been involved with racist and anti-Semitic groups since the 1970s," the [Chicago Tribune](#) (2/4, Briscoe, 2M) reports. The [Chicago Sun-Times](#) (2/4, Sweet, Main, 787K) quotes Illinois Republican Party Chairman Tim Schneider as saying, "The Illinois Republican Party and our country have no place for Nazis like Arthur Jones. We strongly oppose his racist views and his candidacy for any public office."

NYTIMES ANALYSIS: LACK OF “OBVIOUS QUID PRO QUO” HINDERED CASE AGAINST MENENDEZ. A [New York Times](#) (2/4, Corasaniti, Zernike, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) analysis examines Judge William Walls' finding that the DOJ failed to prove that Sen. Robert Menendez (D-NJ) “had accepted hundreds of thousands of dollars in campaign contributions in exchange for lobbying on behalf of his co-defendant,” Dr. Salomon Melgen. The Times says the “decision further exposed what the bribery case against Mr. Menendez and Dr. Salomon Melgen, a wealthy eye doctor from Florida and a longtime friend of the senator, lacked from the start: no key witness, no obvious quid pro quo.” The Times highlights the DOJ’s challenges in deciding whether to prosecute Sen. Menendez.

PROPOSED WELFARE LIMITS IN WISCONSIN COULD COST MORE THAN \$90M A YEAR. The [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#) (2/2, Stein, 592K) reported Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker’s (R) administration estimated “that implementing his proposed limits on welfare could cost state and federal taxpayers nearly \$90 million a year, plus millions more in startup expenses.” The Sentinel featured the opinion of critics who say the bills “will be costly to implement and less effective than using the money for programs like training for workers or public transportation to get them to jobs.”

TWO DEAD IN SOUTH CAROLINA AMTRAK CRASH. [ABC World News Tonight](#) (2/4, lead story, 3:25, Llamas, 14.63M) reported that an Amtrak passenger train crashed into a parked freight train in South Carolina, killing two Amtrak crew members. Over 100 people were taken to the hospital, although only about six are still being treated. Crews scrambled “to contain 5,000 gallons of fuel spilled from the trains.”

The [CBS Weekend News](#) (2/4, lead story, 2:20, Quijano, 11.17M) reported that the crash occurred at about 2:30 Sunday morning “in Cayse, South Carolina, across the river from the state capitol Columbia.” The passenger train is “believed to be on the wrong track” and “traveling at about 59 miles per hour” when it crashed. Conductor Mike Sella and engineer Michael Kempf were both killed. The National Transportation Safety Board is currently “on scene and investigating the crash, as well as switch equip that may have put the Amtrak train on the wrong track.”

UMA THURMAN ACCUSES WEINSTEIN OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT. The [CBS Weekend News](#) (2/4, story 5, 2:00, Quijano, 11.17M) reported that this weekend, actress Uma Thurman accused Harvey “Weinstein of trying to force himself on her years ago.” Thurman alleges that, while at a hotel in London, Weinstein pushed her down, “tried to shove himself on” her, and tried to expose himself. A spokesperson for Weinstein said that Thurman’s “claims about being physically assaulted are untrue,” although Weinstein “acknowledges making an awkward pass 25 years ago after misreading her signals.”

PEN AMERICA’S ROTTMAN: DC’S RIOT ACT SHOULD BE AMENDED. PEN America’s Washington director, Gabe Rottman, opines in an op-ed in the [Washington Post](#) (2/4, 14.56M) that the DC riot act permits “authorities to charge protesters with crimes carrying draconian penalties vastly disproportionate to any alleged harm.” Rottman asserts that the riot act should be amended to require proof of intent, and that J20 defendants who were arrested during last year’s inauguration should be released with all charges dropped. Rottman also opines that DC should strengthen its “First Amendment Rights and Police Standards Act, passed after improper mass arrests in the early 2000s.”

AUTHOR, PROFESSOR: TECHNOLOGY WILL MAKE “HACKING” ELECTIONS EASIER. Author Rick Perlstein and international affairs and political science professor Henry J. Farrell assert in an op-ed in the [New York Times](#) (2/4, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) that new technology using “a user-friendly video application that employs generative adversarial network technology to convincingly swap out one face for another” could be one example of how our political process could be “hacked” in the years to come. The writers present a hypothetical

involving a fake sex scene that could poison low-information voters against Kirsten Gillibrand or someone similar during a future election. The writers opine that our democracy will be tested as different groups of people increasingly inhabit different realities based on the media they consume.

LAW PROFESSOR: #METOO MOVEMENT HAS ACCOMPLISHED WHAT LAW COULD NOT.

Law professor Catharine MacKinnon opines in an op-ed in the [New York Times](#) (2/4, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) that the #MeToo movement has accomplished things that “sexual harassment law to date has not.” MacKinnon asserts that the movement “is eroding the two biggest barriers to ending sexual harassment in law and in life: the disbelief and trivializing dehumanization of its victims.” MacKinnon also opines that accepting “#MeToo’s changing norms into the law could — and predictably will — transform the law as well.”

NYTIMES CRITICIZES TRUMP’S “SHALLOW” AND “DISHONEST” ENERGY POLICY.

The [New York Times](#) (2/4, Board, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) editorializes that President Trump’s energy policy, like “his approach to environmental issues generally,” is dishonest and shallow. The Times criticizes Trump’s reference of a “war on beautiful, clean coal” that he has ended, and contends that the market was coal’s enemy, not President Obama. The Times also condemns Trump’s apparent lack of attention to the environmental concerns attached to the recent surge in American gas and oil production.

WSJOURNAL CRITICIZES ILLINOIS’ PROPOSED PENSION BONDS.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/4, Subscription Publication, 6.29M) editorializes that bonds proposed by Illinois House Democrats would seek to transfer pension-liability risk to taxpayers and investors from public workers. The Journal asserts that this would remove unions’ incentive to pursue pension reform. The Journal opines that Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner will quickly dismiss the proposed bonds, but that they could become reality if he is defeated by a Democrat during this year’s election.

NYTIMES: CUOMO AND DE BLASIO MUST WORK TOGETHER TO FIX SUBWAY.

The [New York Times](#) (2/4, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) editorializes that the hostility between New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio and New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, at a time when New York City’s subway system desperately needs help, “is singularly corrosive because the welfare of nearly six million daily subway riders is at stake.” The Times asserts that it is ultimately “the governor who bears responsibility for the transit system and its governing board, which for too long sat by while money dribbled wastefully away,” although “de Blasio has an important role to play as well.” The publication implores the two officials to put on a united front in the interest of finding a long-term solution for the transit system.

Editorial Wrap-Up:

NEW YORK TIMES. “Trump’s Deceptive Energy Policy.” The [New York Times](#) (2/4, Board, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) editorializes that President Trump’s energy policy, like “his approach to environmental issues generally,” is dishonest and shallow. The Times criticizes Trump’s reference of a “war on beautiful, clean coal” that he has ended, and contends that the market was coal’s enemy, not President Obama. The Times also condemns Trump’s apparent lack of attention to the environmental concerns attached to the recent surge in American gas and oil production.

“Cuomo And De Blasio: Subway Chaos Is Your Shared Foe.” The [New York Times](#) (2/4, Subscription Publication, 12.8M) editorializes that the hostility between New York Mayor Bill de Blasio and New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, at a time when New York City’s subway system desperately needs help, “is singularly corrosive because the welfare of nearly six million daily subway riders is at stake.” The Times asserts that it is ultimately “the governor who bears responsibility for the transit system and its governing board, which for too long sat by while money dribbled wastefully away,” although “de Blasio has an important role to play as well.” The publication implores the two officials to put on a united front in the interest of finding a long-term

solution for the transit system.

WASHINGTON POST. “The Dangers Of A ‘Bloody Nose’ For North Korea.” In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (2/4, 14.56M) revisits arguments against a so-called “bloody nose” strike against North Korea expressed by Victor Cha, “who had been selected by the White House to be ambassador to South Korea” and “saw his nomination derailed after he made the case against such military action.” The Post explains North Korea “eventually will return to its provocative tests and that the Trump administration will face the question of whether to take military action – large or small – to prevent it from reaching its goal.” The Post says when that time comes, “We can only hope that the president and his staff have done that same logical analysis” set forth by Cha, “and that talk of a ‘bloody nose’ is just that.”

“Trump Says He Wants Better-Educated Immigrants. His Plan Does The Opposite.” The [Washington Post](#) (2/4, 14.56M) says in an editorial that President Trump’s “proposed immigration overhaul would cut not only immigrant inflow generally but especially the number of minority migrants.” But “one consequence of the administration’s goals may come as a surprise: It would slash not only the number of immigrants with a university or advanced degree but also the average educational attainment among immigrants who are admitted,” according to an analysis from the Center for Global Development.

“An Opening For Medicaid Expansion In Virginia.” The [Washington Post](#) (2/4, 14.56M), noting in an editorial that “Virginia is close to the bottom” of states in “per capita Medicaid spending on the poor, the disabled and others, including children, who are unable to afford health insurance,” says that Republicans should stop blocking Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act in the state. While new House of Delegates Speaker M. Kirkland Cox, a Republican, insists “that any overhaul be freighted with a work requirement...here may be room for a compromise between Republicans and Democratic Gov. Ralph Northam, a doctor who won a near-landslide victory last fall partly by promising to expand Medicaid.”

WALL STREET JOURNAL. “Giving Patients One More Shot.” In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/4, Subscription Publication, 6.29M) urges the House to advance right-to-try legislation that would allow patients with life-threatening diseases try treatments not approved by the FDA. The Journal says that House Energy and Chairman Greg Walden should stop sitting on the bill.

“Illinois’s Pension Magic Trick.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/4, Subscription Publication, 6.29M) editorializes that bonds proposed by Illinois House Democrats would seek to transfer pension-liability risk to taxpayers and investors from public workers. The Journal asserts that this would remove unions’ incentive to pursue pension reform. The Journal opines that Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner will quickly dismiss the proposed bonds, but that they could become reality if he is defeated by a Democrat during this year’s election.

“DeVos’s New College Try.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/4, Subscription Publication, 6.29M) editorializes favorably about Education Secretary DeVos’ proposed rewriting of 2014 departmental rules on student aid access for for-profit schools. The Journal says the debt-to-earnings ratio followed in the rules does not reflect the quality of a program, and that one study showed that many public and nonprofit colleges would fail if judged by the same rule.

The Big Picture:

HEADLINES FROM TODAY’S FRONT PAGES.

Wall Street Journal:

[‘Dreamer’ Talks Aim To End Budget Impasse](#)

[Companies Everywhere Copied Japanese Manufacturing. Now The Model Is Cracking](#)

[Apple Music On Track To Overtake Spotify In US Subscribers](#)

[South Korea Kept US Out Of The Loop On Pyongyang Overture](#)

New York Times:

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[Key To The Wells Fargo-fed Deal: Holding Directors Accountable](#)
[How A PR Firm That Aided Despots And Rogues Met Its End In South Africa](#)
[Payday Rules Relax On Trump's Watch After Lobbying By Lenders](#)
[With A Monday Vote Expected, Democrats Press To Release Their Own Memo To Counter Russia, US Signals Nuclear Arms Are Back In A Big Way](#)

Washington Post:

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[Girl's Plea Moves Trump, But Not The Way She Hoped](#)
[In GOP, Growing Rift Over Memo Camps Diverge In Memo Fallout](#)
[MS-13's Jailhouse Crews Vie For Power](#)
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Financial Times:

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[Finance Chiefs Warn On Big Tech's Shift To Banking](#)
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Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: South Carolina Amtrak Crash; Amtrak Crash-Witness Interview; GOP Memo-WH; Gov. Shutdown Possibility; Flu Epidemic; FBI-Nassar Sex Abuse; Weather Forecast; Trump-Super Bowl National Anthem; Social Media Scammer; Italy-Shooting Rampage; DUI Accident; Extreme Sport; Super Bowl News.

CBS: South Carolina Amtrak Crash; Amtrak Crash-Expert Opinion; GOP Memo-WH; Super Bowl News; Weinstein Sex Allegations; San Francisco Robbery; Space-X Rocket Launch; Celebrity Auction; Facebook-Child Development; Depression Treatment; Super Bowl-Player.

NBC: Preempted by Super Bowl LII.

Network TV At A Glance:

South Carolina Amtrak Crash – 8 minutes, 25 seconds
GOP Memo-WH – 4 minutes, 20 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: Super Bowl News; South Carolina Amtrak Crash; Gov. Shutdown Possibility; GOP Memo-WH.

CBS: Super Bowl News; DUI Accident; South Carolina Amtrak Crash; GOP Memo-Democrats; Wall Street News.

FOX: Super Bowl News; South Carolina Amtrak Crash; GOP Memo-WH.

NPR: GOP Memo-Democrats; South Carolina Amtrak Crash; Paris Attack Trial; Super Bowl News.

Last Laughs:

LATE NIGHT POLITICAL HUMOR.

No late-night talk show aired on Sunday night.

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Sender:	Bulletin Intelligence <HHS@BulletinIntelligence.com>
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Delivered Date:	2018/02/05 07:34:26

From:	Bulletin Intelligence <HHS@BulletinIntelligence.com>
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Subject:	HHS News Briefing for Monday, April 03, 2017
Date:	2017/04/03 07:35:13
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

HHS NEWS BRIEFING

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TO: THE SECRETARY AND SENIOR STAFF

DATE: MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2017 7:30 AM EDT

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- + WPost Condemns Hogan's "Political Flexibility" Resulting In Fracking Ban.

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THE BIG PICTURE:

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LAST LAUGHS:

- + [Late Night Political Humor](#).

Leading the News:

TRUMP INSISTS HE WILL REVIVE EFFORTS TO REPEAL, REPLACE ACA. [USA Today](#) (4/2, Jackson, 5.28M) reports that on Sunday, President Trump was confident – “both on social media and the golf course – that he and aides can somehow resurrect their attempt to repeal President Barack Obama’s health care law.” Trump tweeted, “Anybody (especially Fake News media) who thinks that Repeal & Replace of ObamaCare is dead does not know the love and strength in R Party!” The article points out that last month, Trump “took a political hit” when he failed to garner enough support from House GOP members to pass the American Health Care Act, which was meant to replace the Affordable Care Act.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/2, Nicholas, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports Trump indicated on Sunday that he intends to still pursue efforts to repeal and replace the ACA. In tweets, Trump pointed to a united Republican Party, even though just days ago, he threatened to ensure members of the conservative House Freedom Caucus would not be re-elected in 2018.

Also covering the story are [Politico](#) (4/2, Morin, 2.46M), [The Hill](#) (4/2, Balluck, 1.25M), [Newsday \(NY\)](#) (4/2, Schwartz, Eidler, 1.3M), and the [Washington Examiner](#) (4/2, Yilek, 400K).

The Secretary in the News:

CONGRESS INVESTIGATING NIH FUNDING OF TWO CONTROVERSIAL CANCER

RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS. The [National Review](#) (4/3, Kelly, Stier, 696K) reports Congress is investigating whether the National Institutes of Health “misspent U.S. tax dollars to fund two European cancer institutions now under scrutiny for conflicts of interest and dubious science:” the Ramazzini Institute and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC). The article reports that Rep. Lamar Smith, the chairman of the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee, sent a letter to the Secretary of Health and Human Services Tom Price requesting information about the NIH’s funding of the Ramazzini Institute, which received funding from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. The article reports that the NIEHS is run by Linda Birnbaum, who is also a fellow at the Ramazzini Institute and has ties with the IARC.

WISCONSIN SEEKS WAIVERS FROM HHS FOR MEDICAID, INCLUDING DRUG TEST. The [Washington Post](#) (4/2, Cunningham, 11.43M) reports that Gov. Scott Walker of Wisconsin will be requesting HHS Secretary Tom Price to receive waivers to implement work requirements, premium payments and drug testing. The waiver would also require treatment for enrollees testing positive. Wisconsin Department of Health Services communications director Julie Lund said, “The goal behind Walker’s proposal ‘is to help people get healthy so they can get back in the workforce.’”

NO FDA REPRESENTATIVE ON TRUMP’S OPIOID COMMISSION. [Modern Healthcare](#) (4/1, Johnson, Subscription Publication, 241K) reported that there is no representative from the Food and Drug Administration on President Trump’s opioid abuse commission. Trump “last week introduced a high-profile group that is tasked with reporting on ideas and progress toward curbing the number of people who die from drug overdoses every year.” It “includes New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie [R] – who has led several statewide efforts to address heroin addiction – US Attorney General Jeff Sessions, Defense Secretary James Mattis and HHS Secretary Tom Price.”

CREDENTIALS OF DEMOCRATIC HOPEFUL FOR PRICE’S FORMER SEAT LARGELY VALIDATED. Glenn Kessler writes in the [Washington Post](#) (4/3, 11.43M) “Fact Checker” about “the résumé of Jon Ossoff, a Georgia Democrat who appears to have a good shot at winning a special election on April 18 to fill the House seat recently vacated by Tom Price, who became secretary of health and human services.” Although he is only 30, Ossoff “had pitched himself as having had five years of experience as a ‘former national security aide’ and holding a ‘top-secret clearance.’” The piece says after analyzing the available information, “it seems reasonable for Ossoff to say he spent five years working on national security issues in Congress, even though at least two years of that period overlapped with college work.” Therefore, “the GOP ads mocking him for including his college years as part of experiences are off base.” In addition, the “passage of the Uganda resolution demonstrates he was doing more than just answering phone calls in the office.”

RECORDS SUGGEST PRICE MAY HAVE SOUGHT TO PROTECT SHARE PRICES OF COMPANIES IN WHICH HE OWNED STOCK. [ProPublica](#) (3/31, Faturechi, 30K) reported that records indicate on the very “day the stockbroker for” former Rep. Tom Price (R-GA) “bought him up to \$90,000 of stock in six pharmaceutical companies last year, Price arranged to call a top U.S. health official, seeking to scuttle a controversial rule that could have hurt the firms’ profits and driven down their share prices.” ProPublica previously said that Price’s “trading is said to have been under investigation by federal prosecutors.” New data reveal that Price, who is currently HHS Secretary, had made a “personal appeal to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services about the rule, called the Medicare Part B Drug Payment Model.”

[The Hill](#) (3/31, Vladimirov, 1.25M) added that ProPublica said Price’s “legislative aide Carla DiBlasio emailed health officials on the same day as the stock purchase in an attempt to set up a call with Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services chief medical officer Patrick Conway.” She reportedly “indicated that alongside a planned discussion of joint replacement procedures, Price would also address ‘his concerns’ about the rule.”

SEBELIUS DISCUSSES HOW PRICE’S ACTIONS CAN IMPACT ACA. The [Daily Intelligencer](#)

(NY) (3/31, Tabor, 795K) interviewed former HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius about how current HHS Secretary Tom Price could reshape the Affordable Care Act, despite the failure of the AHCA. She said, "The secretary actually already has a good deal of authority within the confines of the Affordable Care Act. Step one really is a question of whether or not HHS will continue to reimburse insurance companies for cost-sharing expenses." Sebelius also pointed out that Price can do much "to encourage more companies to participate in the market," especially "in states where there is limited competition." She explained that HHS "can do a lot: They can use the powers of persuasion; they can get the president involved, which we used to do; they can figure out incentives for companies; or they could do nothing and allow some of those marketplaces to become even less competitive."

Zika Virus News:

EXPERIMENTAL ZIKA VACCINE MOVES INTO BROADER TESTING. The [Washington Post](#) (3/31, Sun, 11.43M) reported that "an experimental Zika vaccine has moved successfully into broader testing, with the first volunteer receiving a test dose in Houston earlier this week." This "experimental vaccine, developed by scientists at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, is one of the first to progress to expanded testing of at least a half-dozen candidates in the development pipeline in the" US. According to the Post, "If this next phase shows good results, and another outbreak of Zika flares in South America or elsewhere, it's possible that the Food and Drug Administration could make the vaccine available on an emergency basis, said NIAID Director Anthony Fauci in a conference call with reporters."

The [AP](#) (3/31, Neergaard) reported that the "two-part study...aims to enroll at least 2,400 people in Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico and five at-risk countries: Brazil, Mexico, Panama, Costa Rica and Peru."

[Newsweek](#) (3/31, Firger, 862K) reported, "If Phase 2 data" are "positive, the vaccine will likely move onto Phase 3, and at that point the NIAID will look to partner with a pharmaceutical company that can cover some of the trial's costs." According to Newsweek, "Fauci said the trial is expected to cost approximately \$100 million." Fauci "added that NIH director, Dr. Francis Collins is in contact with President Trump about making this research a priority."

[CNN](#) (3/31, Christensen, 29.79M) reported, "Fauci said the third phase of the trial is 'a very high priority for us, and we will keep this as one of our higher priorities.'"

Also covering the story were [USA Today](#) (3/31, Choi, 5.28M), [Reuters](#) (3/31), the [NBC News](#) (3/31, Fox, 2.67M) website, and [STAT](#) (3/31, Branswel).

FLORIDA STATE OFFICIALS, PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERTS CONCERNED ABOUT ANOTHER POTENTIAL ZIKA OUTBREAK. [The Hill](#) (4/2, Wilson, 1.25M) reports Florida state officials and public health experts are bracing for another potential Zika outbreak in Miami. The article mentions that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention "has an incident manager coordinating the federal response from the agency's Atlanta headquarters." Denise Jamieson, the chief of the CDC's Women's Health and Fertility Branch, said, "We learned a lot last year. The Florida experience in particular was very helpful in learning how to deal with local transmission. We learned a lot about how to designate and communicate about areas of risk."

HHS in the News:

DEATH RATES FOR THE MOST COMMON TYPES OF CANCER HAVE DECLINED, REPORT SAYS. [Newsweek](#) (3/31, Silva, 862K) reported that the National Institutes of Health's Annual Report to the Nation on the Status of Cancer indicated "death rates for the most common types of cancer dropped for men, women and children from all racial and ethnic backgrounds from 2010-2014." This "report is based on research from the American Cancer Society; the Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention and the National Cancer Institute." Newsweek points out that former Vice President Joe Biden's "\$195 million 'Cancer Moonshot' program encourages expanded access to care, research, new therapies and efforts to curb rising drug prices."

On its website, [ABC News](#) (3/31, Mohny, 3.09M) reported that "from 2010 to 2014, overall cancer deaths in men decreased by 1.8 percent per year, 1.4 percent per year for women and 1.6 percent per year for" kids. However, "there was an uptick in deaths due to certain cancers, including liver cancer, for both sexes between 2010 to 2014."

The [Washington Times](#) (3/31, Kelly, 272K) reported that in an NIH statement, Betsy A. Kohler, executive director of North American Association of Central Cancer Registries, said, "The continued drops in overall cancer death rates in the United States are welcome news, reflecting improvements in prevention, early detection, and treatment." However, Kohler said, "this report also shows us that progress has been limited for several cancers, which should compel us to renew our commitment to efforts to discover new strategies for prevention, early detection, and treatment, and to apply proven interventions broadly and equitably." The report was published in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute.

[Medscape](#) (3/31, Jenkins, 339K) reported that Lynne T. Penberthy, MD, MPH, associate director of NCI's Surveillance Research Program, said in a statement, "We still have a lot of work to do to understand the causes of these differences, but certainly differences in the kinds and timing of recommended treatments are likely to play a role."

According to [HealthDay](#) (3/31, Preidt, 21K), "The report also showed that tobacco-related cancers have low survival rates, underscoring the importance of steps to reduce tobacco use," said Dr. Lisa Richardson, director of the CDC's Division of Cancer Prevention and Control."

EDITORIAL: PROPOSED NIH BUDGET CUTS WOULD CAUSE ECONOMIC HARM IN BOSTON AREA. The [Boston Herald](#) (4/2, 509K) editorializes that President Trump's proposed budget cuts to the National Institutes of Health would "take a huge bite" out of "one of the largest economic drivers in" the Boston area. The editorial argues that NIH funding supports "thousands upon thousands of jobs...for lab techs and radiologists and file clerks and the guy who cleans the autoclave. And when the R &D is done, all the drug and medical device manufacturing that comes of it."

SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF NIH GRANTS LEAD TO PATENTS, FDA DRUG APPROVALS, STUDY SUGGESTS. In continuing coverage, [Newsweek](#) (3/31, Wapner, 862K) reported on a recent [study](#) that analyzed how many of the 365,380 NIH grants awarded between 1980 and 2007 led directly or indirectly to patents. Researchers found that 31% of those "grants were cited in 81,462 patent applications submitted by private companies," and an additional 5% "were cited in patent applications by the universities where the research took place." The researchers also found that about 4,400 of those grants "were tied to drugs approved by the Food and Drug Administration."

MORE RESEARCHERS USING NHLBI DATA REPOSITORY, STUDY SUGGESTS. [MedPage Today](#) (3/31, Lou, 97K) reported, "Data sharing is building up and creating research articles that contribute to the scientific community," according to a [report](#) from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute that was published in the New England Journal of Medicine. Researchers found that "370 investigators requested data from at least one clinical trial" using the data repository between January 2000 and May 2016, and the majority of those requests were made "in the last 4.4 years of the study period." Sean A. Coody of the NHLBI said that the recent increase in requests indicates "an increasing demand for trial data that has outpaced acquisition."

SOME CRITICIZE DIFFERENCES IN TERMINOLOGY USED TO DESCRIBE RECENT OPIOID ABUSE AMONG WHITE AMERICANS. The [AP](#) (4/1) reported that some African-Americans are highlighting the differences in the terminology used to describe the abuse of opioids primarily

among whites today compared to the terminology used to describe the abuse of other drugs in the past within communities that were predominantly black. The article reported that these critics argue that the abuse of opioids by white people is often referred to as an "epidemic" or a public health crisis that needs to be addressed, whereas the abuse of drugs by black people is often referred to as a "war" or crime that needs to be punished. Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show the vast majority of Americans who have died from opioid overdoses in recent years have been white, and research from the National Institutes of Health found that the number of deaths among white Americans between the ages of 25 to 30 rose significantly between 1999 and 2014. Study lead author Meredith Shiels, a researcher at the National Cancer Institute, said, "In high-income countries you expect us to make progress over time, you expect the death rate to decrease, you expect life expectancy to increase. So when something comes in and reverses that, and suddenly the mortality rate is increasing in any given group, that's an alarm that there is something very serious and epidemic going on."

CANCER DEATH RATE CONTINUES DECLINE, REPORT SUGGESTS. [The Scientist](#) (4/1, Offord, 151K) reported, "The cancer death rate is continuing to decline and has in fact dropped by about 25 percent in the past couple of decades." Rebecca Siegel, the lead author of the American Cancer Society's annual "Cancer Facts & Figures" [report](#), said, "The reason that's important is that we've recently learned that the trends are no longer declining for many other leading causes of death." Kathy Cronin, the deputy director of the National Cancer Institute's Surveillance Research Program, said, "It's a measure of progress. For many cancers, we see mortality decreasing."

OLDER AMERICANS ARE DRINKING MORE, STUDY SUGGESTS. [CNN](#) (3/31, Jimison, 29.79M) reported Americans over the age of 60 years old "are drinking more than they were 20 years ago," according to a [study](#) published online March 24 in the journal *Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research*. Rosalind Breslow, an epidemiologist at the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, said, "Given the larger number of Americans we are going to have (as the population ages), that's going to increase the need for more public health programming." Breslow added, "Overall, more older people are drinking, it's kind of a burgeoning public health issue."

TWO RECENT STUDIES SUGGEST PD-1 INHIBITORS "MAY BACKFIRE IN SOME PATIENTS" AND SPUR CANCER GROWTH. [Nature](#) (3/31, Ledford, 153K) reported PD-1 inhibitors "may backfire in some patients" and aid the spread of cancer, according to two studies that were recently published in the journal *Clinical Cancer Research*. The article reported that the new studies "are too small to justify a change in how physicians treat patients," but researchers are calling "for bigger clinical trials to explore how immunotherapy drugs that are intended to rein in tumours could instead spur them on." Elad Sharon, a cancer researcher at the National Cancer Institute, said, "With these small numbers, you're always stuck being a little unsure. What we should be doing probably is more cross-pollinating with other branches of medicine that look at the immune system."

MANY TUMORS RECRUIT T CELLS THAT EXPRESS TUMOR NECROSIS FACTOR RECEPTOR 2, STUDY SUGGESTS. [The Scientist](#) (4/1, Williams, 151K) reported researchers at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital "have discovered that many tumors recruit a particularly potent type of T cells known as Tregs that express "a receptor called tumor necrosis factor receptor 2 (TNFR2)," according to a [study](#) published in *Science Signaling*. The study's researchers have hypothesized that antibodies that target TNFR2 could target Tregs and tumor cells. Joost Oppenheim of the National Cancer Institute described the idea as "a double whammy." Oppenheim added, "The question is: How will anti-TNFR2 compare with better-documented [immune activators]? ... That really can only be established by looking in vivo."

OPINION: PRESIDENT TRUMP'S PROPOSED NIH BUDGET CUTS WOULD COST LIVES AND DAMAGE NEW YORK'S ECONOMY. Edward C. Halperin, the chancellor of New York Medical College, wrote in an opinion piece in [Crain's New York Business](#) (3/31, 230K) that President Trump's proposed budget cuts to the National Institutes of Health would cost lives and

damage New York's economy and cost lives. Halperin argued that "if we cut the budget for biomedical research, people will die unnecessarily," and that "publicly funded biomedical research is a powerful economic driver of our state economy, accounting for more than 31,000 jobs and an economic impact of more than \$4.6 billion."

OPINION: SOME CRITICISM OF BOLD INITIATIVES IS SHORT-SIGHTED. Dr. Howard Krein, the chief medical officer of StartUp Health, wrote in [STAT](#) (3/31) "First Opinion" that some are criticizing the Cancer Moonshot, the Precision Medicine Initiative, and other "audacious" projects for failing to meet some of their goals. Krein argued, "While success is important, so is trying: Trying to make a difference. Trying to make a change. Trying to speed up the progress of what we know will eventually come but is taking too long." Krein said that criticism of such initiatives reminds him of the mantra, "We always overestimate what we can do in two years, and we underestimate what we can do in ten years."

CDC FINDS ONE IN FOUR US YOUTHS EXPOSED TO SECONDHAND SMOKE FROM E-CIGARETTES. The [Washington Post](#) (3/31, Naqvi, 11.43M) reported the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found "one in four middle school and high school students report that they have been exposed to secondhand smoke from e-cigarettes in the past 30 days," which "translates to about 6.5 million youths exposed." Brian King, deputy director for research translation in CDC's Office on Smoking and Health and a co-author of the new [study](#) (3/20), which was published in JAMA Pediatrics, said, "We know that secondhand e-cigarette aerosol is not harmless, and it's critical to protect our nation's youth from this preventable health risk."

FDA NOMINEE TO TESTIFY BEFORE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WEDNESDAY. [The Hill](#) (4/3, Wheeler, Devaney, 1.25M) reports that on Wednesday, Scott Gottlieb, President Trump's nominee "to head the Food and Drug Administration, will take his turn in the hot seat and face questions from members of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee." The piece adds that "Gottlieb, a former FDA official under President George W. Bush, is a nominee that has appeared to please both Democrats and Republicans."

Another article in [The Hill](#) (4/3, Sullivan, 1.25M) also notes the story.

PMI SUBMITS PRE-MARKET APPROVAL APPLICATION FOR IQOS DEVICE TO THE FDA. [Reuters](#) (3/31, Geller) reported Philip Morris International sent a pre-market approval application to the FDA for its IQOS heated tobacco product. PMI has sold more than 3 million IQOS units so far in Japan, where the device debuted, but the devices will be sold by Altria Group in the US if the application is approved.

Specifically, [Convenience Store News](#) (3/31, 212K) reported the application was submitted to the FDA's Center for Tobacco Products.

HHS OFFICE OF NATIONAL COORDINATOR FOR HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY NAMES NEW NATIONAL COORDINATOR. [Healthcare IT News](#) (3/31, Monegain, 3K) reported HHS' Office of the National Coordinator for Healthcare Information Technology has selected former Siemens Chief Medical Officer Donald Rucker, MD, as its national coordinator. Rucker served as CMO at Siemens for 13 years, and also "spent 13 years as clinical assistant professor of emergency medicine at University of Pennsylvania Health System." Rucker "holds a master's degree in Medical Computer Science and an MBA, both from Stanford University," and previously "led the team that designed the computerized physician order entry workflow that...won the 2003 HIMSS Nicholas Davies Award for the best hospital computer system in the country."

[Healthcare Finance News](#) (3/31, Monegain, 94K) and [Modern Healthcare](#) (3/31, Arndt, Subscription Publication, 241K) also reported this story.

US DISTRICT JUDGE ALLOWS ROSEBUD SIOUX TRIBE LAWSUIT TO CONTINUE. The [AP](#) (3/31) reported South Dakota US District Judge Roberto Lange ruled "that the Rosebud Sioux

Tribe in South Dakota can move forward on its lawsuit" alleging that the Indian Health Service failed to give tribal members sufficient medical care. The Sioux Tribe filed the suit last year after the IHS closed the Rosebud Hospital emergency room "following an investigation by federal inspectors who found serious failures they said were putting patients' lives at risk." Timothy Purdon, the tribe's attorney, says the Sioux Tribe believes that IHS "violated its trust responsibility."

Health Reform:

TRUMP, PAUL DISCUSS HEALTHCARE DURING GOLF OUTING. [Bloomberg News](#) (4/2, Talev, 2.41M) reports that on Sunday, President Trump golfed with Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY), who has been a vocal critic of the American Health Care Act. Trump and Paul were joined by "White House budget director Mick Mulvaney at the White House before riding in the presidential motorcade to the Trump National Golf Club in Potomac Falls, Virginia." According to White House spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham, the three intended "to discuss a range of topics, including health care, during their round."

[The Hill](#) (4/2, Firozi, 1.25M) reports that following the golf outing, Paul tweeted, "I had a great time today with @realDonaldTrump...and believe we are getting closer to an agreement on health care!."

[Reuters](#) (4/2, Pytalski) and the [Washington Examiner](#) (4/2, Yilek, 400K) also cover the story.

TRUMP WARNS HE WILL TURN TO DEMOCRATS ON HEALTHCARE IF GOP CONTINUES TO OPPOSE HIM. [The Hill](#) (4/2, Shelbourne, 1.25M) reports that on Sunday, the Financial Times published an interview with President Trump, during which he warned that he would turn to Democrats on healthcare if the GOP continues to refuse to support his reform plan. Trump stated, "If we don't get what we want, we will make a deal with the Democrats and we will have in my opinion not as good a form of healthcare, but we are going to have a very good form of healthcare and it will be a bipartisan form of healthcare."

AHCA REPORTEDLY ASSUMES "ZOMBIE STATUS." The [AP](#) (3/31, Benac) reported that the AHCA may or may not have died when House GOP leaders pulled it, citing lack of support from party members. The article said the measure "seems to have assumed zombie status – somewhere between dead and alive." The piece added that saying the President "and Republican congressional leaders are sending mixed signals about the viability of the repeal effort is an understatement," and it pointed to several instances when they either said the effort was defunct, or indicated they were working on deals to push it through.

AHCA'S FAILURE MAY HAVE TURNED ACA REPEAL INTO A "POLITICAL NIGHTMARE" FOR GOP. The [AP](#) (4/1, Fram) reported that the failure of the AHCA "may well have transformed an issue the party has long used to bash Democrats into the GOP's own political nightmare." The article explained that the GOP used the Affordable Care Act against Democrats to gain control of the Senate in 2014, and in November to elect President Trump. The piece pointed out, however, that "here they are, in full control of government but unable to deliver their pledge." Rather, "they're sweeping up debris from a failed bill that party moderates and conservatives hated, sparked a civil war between Trump and the hard line House Freedom Caucus and threatens to alienate GOP base voters."

ANALYSIS INDICATES CONSUMERS IN SOME AREAS MAY LACK ACCESS TO ACA PLANS IN 2018. Margot Sanger-Katz wrote in the [New York Times](#) (3/31, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) "The Upshot" blog that some areas of the US are at risk of not having any insurers which offer Affordable Care Act plans through health exchanges in 2018. At present, several "counties already have just one insurer offering health plans in the Obamacare marketplaces, and some of those solo insurers are showing signs that they are eyeing the exits." The piece pointed out that if Anthem were to exit ACA marketplaces, for instance, there would be

"coverage gaps in substantial parts of Georgia, Missouri, Kentucky, Ohio and Colorado, as well as smaller holes in other states." And if no insurers offer ACA plans in these areas, residents would be unable to use ACA subsidies to reduce their premiums.

Trump Lauds NYTimes For Pointing Out ACA's Challenges. [The Hill](#) (4/1, Smilowitz, 1.25M) reported that on Saturday, President Trump appeared "to change his tune on the New York Times, tweeting his approval of an article" on the website's "The Upshot" blog that "highlights areas of the country that could have no insurers offering Obamacare health plans next year." In a two-part post, Trump said, "The failing @nytimes finally gets it – 'In places where no insurance company offers plans, there will be no way for ObamaCare customers to use subsidies to buy health plans.'" He added, "In other words, Ocare is dead. Good things will happen, however, either with Republicans or Dems."

The [Washington Examiner](#) (4/1, Chaitin, 400K) also covered the story.

REP. JORDAN SAYS TRUMP'S TWEETS WILL NOT ALTER FACT THAT AHCA COULD NOT REPEAL ACA. On [CNN's State Of The Union](#) (4/2, Tapper, 420K), Freedom Caucus member Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH) was asked about President Trump's tweet blaming him and others for the defeat of the GOP healthcare plan. Jordan said, "Tweets and statements and blame don't change facts": the bill "doesn't repeal Obamacare." He added later, "Good process lead[s] to good policy and I think" it "translates into good politics," but that never occurred in this situation. In response to Trump's social media director at the White House tweeting a call to defeat Rep. Justin Amash, another member of the Freedom Caucus, Jordan said, "What concerns me more than this threat of primaries is keeping our word with the American people." Regarding the prospect of the White House supporting primary challengers, Jordan said, "I've never shied away from competition. If that happens, that happens."

[Politico](#) (4/2, Meyer, 2.46M) reports that Jordan "pushed back on Sunday against President Donald Trump's tweets blaming the Freedom Caucus for torpedoing the GOP health care bill." The piece points out that the group "has borne the brunt of Trump's anger for the failure of the GOP health care bill that Trump and House Speaker Paul Ryan tried to shepherd through the House, only to cancel a vote when it became apparent the bill wouldn't pass the chamber."

[The Hill](#) (3/31, Hagen, 1.25M) reported that the group criticized Trump on Friday, arguing that it "has kept its promise on healthcare and its vow to fully repeal ObamaCare." On Friday morning, the group tweeted, ".@RealDonaldTrump We are where we've always been: committed to keeping our promise."

The [Washington Examiner](#) (4/2, Giaritelli, 400K) also covers the story.

CONSERVATIVE GROUPS CRITICIZE TRUMP, GOP LEADERS IN ESCALATING "CIVIL WAR." The [Washington Post](#) (3/31, Cunningham, 11.43M) said conservative groups supportive of the House Freedom Caucus "fired more shots Friday morning at President Trump and Republican leaders in what's becoming a civil war over health care." During a call with reporters, the leaders of ForAmerica, Heritage Action for America, FreedomWorks, the Family Research Council, and other groups "expressed sharp indignation at Trump" following his criticism of the conservative lawmakers.

IN TWEET, TRUMP AIDE TARGETS CONSERVATIVE HOUSE MEMBER. The [AP](#) (4/1) reported that on Saturday, White House social media director Dan Scavino Jr. urged "the primary defeat of a conservative House member from Michigan." In a tweet, Scavino "targeted congressman Justin Amash of Michigan, a member of the conservative Freedom Caucus criticized by Trump." Scavino stated "in the tweet that Trump is bringing auto plants and jobs back to Michigan," and he called "Amash a 'big liability.'"

[Politico](#) (4/1, Morin, 2.46M) also covered the story.

FREEDOM CAUCUS WOULD ALLOW INSURERS TO CHARGE PEOPLE WITH PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS HIGHER PREMIUMS. On its website, [CNN Money](#) (4/1, Luhby, 3.59M) reported that the crux of the fight "between the House Freedom Caucus and Republican leaders, particularly President Trump," is the fact that the group's demands will result in lower healthcare premiums for those who are healthy. The article pointed out that the group "is right that the GOP bill, formally titled the American Health Care Act, would have done little to lower premiums for most Americans, experts say." While costs for younger adults would have fallen, they would have dropped "at the expense" of seniors.

[Vox](#) (3/31, Kliff, 1.15M) reported that on Thursday, the group "laid out two demands...for a health care bill its members would support: ending Obamacare's essential health benefits and its "community rating" provisions." This means insurers would once again be allowed to charge people with pre-existing conditions more, and to drop "drop services like maternity care and mental health services."

PELOSI ATTEMPTS TO UNIFY DEMOCRATS ON HEALTHCARE. [The Hill](#) (4/1, Lillis, Marcos, 1.25M) reported that House Minority Leader Pelosi (D-CA) has taken the lead in "pressing Democrats to hold back on specific ObamaCare fixes a week after President Trump and House Republicans failed spectacularly in their bid to repeal the landmark law." According to The Hill, Pelosi "told members to bring any suggestions to leadership before making them public, a stance intended to prevent Republicans from putting a target on them and avoid freelancing by her own members." The piece indicated that her "strategy...seeks to unify the party on healthcare ahead of 2018, when Democrats are growing more confident that they could have a real chance of winning the House."

The [New Orleans Times-Picayune](#) (4/1, Evans, 656K) reported that during a visit to New Orleans on Saturday, Pelosi urged "support for the Affordable Care Act, appearing alongside Mayor Mitch Landrieu at the Daughters of Charity primary care clinic in Mid-City." She lauded the ACA and encouraged supporters to protect it against GOP attempts to repeal and replace it.

The [Baton Rouge \(LA\) Advocate](#) (4/1, Reckdahl, 75K) also covered the story.

ZEKE EMANUEL MEETS WITH TRUMP ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS HEALTHCARE. [The Hill](#) (3/31, Sullivan, 1.25M) reported that on Thursday, Zeke Emanuel, one of the architects of the Affordable Care Act, met with Trump Administration officials at the White House. This meeting followed "a sitdown between Emanuel, who advised former President Barack Obama on healthcare, and President Trump earlier" in March.

[Vox](#) (3/31, Kliff, 1.15M), which first broke the story, reported that meeting participants discussed "what comes next on health care." Topics of conversation included "funding for reinsurance – one of the programs that protects insurers against exceptionally large financial losses if they have a handful of really high-cost medical claims to pay out."

RYAN SAYS GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO FUND ACA SUBSIDIES UNTIL SUIT IS RESOLVED. [Fortune](#) (3/31, Mukherjee, 7.12M) reported that AHCA's "failure was never going to assure that the law it was trying to replace, the Affordable Care Act (ACA), would escape unscathed given a highly adversarial White House and Congress." Yet, it seems that "Congressional GOP leaders may not be intent on deliberately weakening Obamacare's marketplaces in the near future, if new comments by House Speaker Paul Ryan are any indication." On Thursday, he indicated that the government would continue to fund ACA subsidies, saying, "While the lawsuit is being litigated then the administration funds these benefits. That's how they've been doing it and I don't see any change in that."

CONSERVATIVE GROUPS WANT GOP LEADERSHIP TO CRAFT NEW, VIABLE ACA REPEAL LEGISLATION. [The Hill](#) (3/31, Hellmann, 1.25M) reported several non-governmental

groups want the “Republican leadership to put together and pass a new ObamaCare repeal plan that will pass muster with conservatives after the GOP’s healthcare bill last week fell apart amid a lack of support.” For instance, Heritage Action CEO Mike Needham said, “The House needs to work with conservatives to craft a bill that truly repeals and replaces ObamaCare. ... They should be willing to work with us.”

FOLLOWING AHCA’S FAILURE, NEW JERSEY CONGRESSMEN WANT TO WORK WITH DEMOCRATS ON ACA OVERHAUL. The [Newark \(NJ\) Star-Ledger](#) (4/2, Salant, 438K) reports New Jersey GOP lawmakers Reps. Tom MacArthur and Leonard Lance were on “opposite sides when the House debated legislation to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act with an alternative that would leave 500,000 fewer New Jersey residents without health insurance.” But, in the wake of the AHCA’s failure, both say “they want Democrats to join the effort to correct problems with the existing health care law.” MacArthur is quoted as saying, “I certainly would welcome working with my Democratic colleagues. ... I have always thought it was the better way to pass legislation.”

INDUSTRY AWAITING INSURERS’ DECISIONS ABOUT PARTICIPATION IN ACA EXCHANGES NEXT YEAR. [Vox](#) (3/31, Kliff, 1.15M) reported the “most important day for the Affordable Care Act” is June 27, 2017, when “health insurers have to decide whether they will sell coverage on the Obamacare marketplaces.” One expert said insurers’ decisions about whether or not to participate in ACA marketplaces “will give us the first indication of what the ballpark rate increases are, what counties have insurers and which ones don’t.”

SOME TRUMP VOTERS UNHAPPY ACA HAS NOT YET BEEN REPEALED. [Vox](#) (4/1, Turner, 1.15M) reported that many voters who were “frustrated” with rising premiums for Affordable Care Act plans decided to vote for President Trump in November, and they hoped he would keep his vow to repeal and replace the ACA. One of them, Sherri Underwood, said she “regretted her choice” by Inauguration Day because “she was already seeing signs that Trump wasn’t going to stay true to his campaign promises.” The article says the failure of the AHCA proved she was right to be concerned that the ACA would not be repealed.

PENCE REMAINS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT HEALTHCARE REFORM DURING OHIO TRIP. The [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#) (4/1, Pelzer, 976K) reported Vice President Pence was “cheerleader-in-chief” on a visit to the Columbus, Ohio on Saturday, “touting...Trump’s achievements during his short time in office and promising action on issues from health care to job creation.” The piece said Pence was “buoyant about health-care reform, even though House GOP leaders last week pulled a bill to replace parts of ex-President Barack Obama’s Affordable Care Act.” He added that “it was ‘a shame’ that the House Republicans’ bill didn’t pass – a defeat he blamed on opposition from Democratic lawmakers and ‘a handful’ of Republicans.”

On its website, [Fox News](#) (4/1, Weber, 11.07M) reported that Pence also said President Trump’s bid “to overhaul ObamaCare ‘ain’t over yet,” trying to assure voters in the battleground state that he and Trump will make good on their winning campaign promise.”

The [Washington Examiner](#) (4/1, Siciliano, 400K) quoted Pence as saying, “We will repeal and replace Obamacare and give the American people the world-class healthcare they deserve. ... And once Obamacare is gone, we’re going to cut taxes across the board.”

The [Washington Examiner](#) (4/1, Siciliano, 400K) also covered the story.

ANALYSIS: REPUBLICANS RISK BACKLASH FROM VOTERS REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT THEY MAKE ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO REPEAL ACA. [Roll Call](#) (3/31, Gonzales, 63K) reported that in March, congressional Republicans sought to keep their years-long vow to repeal the Affordable Care Act, but ultimately had to pull the bill due to lack of support among their own ranks. The article compared this event to the impact of the ACA on the 2010 elections, during which Republicans gained 63 seats in the House. It added that Republicans

must “wrestle with whether to make another attempt at changing health care policy,” although they not only “risk a backlash from moderate voters if the GOP alternative is unacceptable or worse than the status quo, but also risk turning off Republican voters who have lost faith in their GOP elected officials.” Meanwhile, Democrats are hopeful “that health care will be just one part of a Trump agenda that voters won’t like and will consequently take out their frustration on GOP candidates.”

ANTHEM THREATENING TO EXIT EXCHANGES IF TRUMP ADMINISTRATION FAILS TO OVERHAUL ACA. The [Fiscal Times](#) (3/31, Pianin, 49K) reported that Anthem is indicating it may exit Affordable Care Act exchanges in 2018 if the Trump Administration fails to take action to overhaul the healthcare law. The article said Anthem’s “message seems to be that unless Washington gets its act together on health care,” it “will join other insurance giants like UnitedHealth Group, Cigna, Humana and Aetna in pulling out of Obamacare markets in many regions of the country.” Some analysts are already predicting that Anthem will exit the marketplaces, and if it does, this “would leave more than 800,000 individual plan customers in 14 states either without subsidized Obamacare coverage or more limited choices.”

EXPERTS SUGGEST FUTURE OF ACA COULD DEPEND ON TRUMP’S ACTIONS. [U.S. News & World Report](#) (3/31, Leonard, 1.02M) said that in the wake of the AHCA’s failure, there is growing debate about the future of the Affordable Care Act. Liberals contend what is needed is a public option, while President Trump and GOP leaders argue the healthcare law is on the verge of collapse. The article pointed out that marketplaces “serving most U.S. counties are stable, and a recent government analysis concluded this stability would remain under the current law.” Yet, “for those facing the possibility of few or no choices for insurance next year, Trump’s apocalyptic predictions could ring true to their personal experiences.” Some experts are suggesting that the Trump Administration could take action to shore up ACA marketplaces, but it remains to be seen if Trump, who is staunchly opposed to the ACA, would allow such a move.

DATA INDICATE RURAL HOSPITALS WOULD FACE MORE FINANCIAL HARDSHIPS IF ACA REPLACEMENT CUTS MEDICAID, MEDICARE FUNDING. [Modern Healthcare](#) (3/31, Barkholz, Subscription Publication, 241K) reported that rural hospitals are in tough financial straits, “and could become candidates to close if healthcare reforms leave more people uninsured, according to a new study.” Data indicate these “hospitals would face even tougher times if Congress replaces the Affordable Care Act with a plan that cuts funding for Medicare and Medicaid.”

THREE INSURERS OPERATING IN MINNESOTA SUING GOVERNMENT OVER ACA’S RISK CORRIDORS PROGRAM. The [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) (3/31, Snowbeck, 1.27M) reported that three health insurance firms which operate in Minnesota “are suing the federal government to recover at least \$195 million in losses connected to struggling markets under the federal health law.” Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota, Medica and Sanford Health joined more than a dozen other firms in the US which have sued the federal government over the Affordable Care Act’s risk corridors program. The article explained that this “program was one of three financial safety nets designed to entice insurers into competing in the individual market despite uncertainties with the ACA.”

SOME CONSUMERS WORRIED GOVERNMENT COULD STOP MAKING PAYMENTS TO SUBSIDIZE OUT-OF-POCKET HEALTHCARE COSTS. [Kaiser Health News](#) (3/31, Ibarra, 2K) reported that some Americans depend on an Affordable Care Act subsidy program to help them lower their annual deductibles; therefore, they were relieved when the AHCA was defeated recently. The article pointed out that the program aims to lower out-of-pocket costs for these consumers. The government makes such payments directly to insurers, and the piece added that without this funding, many consumers would no longer be able to afford healthcare coverage. People who receive this type of assistance are worried because House Republicans had sued the Obama Administration over the payments, alleging they were unconstitutional since Congress had not appropriated the funds. A court ruled in favor of the House, but the Obama Administration

appealed the ruling. The piece said the Trump Administration could continue the appeal, or simply decide to stop the payments.

TRUMP DOESN'T REGRET CRITICIZING HOUSE FREEDOM CAUCUS OVER AHCA

FAILURE. The [New York Post](#) (4/2, Moore, 3.82M) reports that President Trump told the Financial Times in an interview published online Sunday that the House Freedom Caucus “loses so big” if he brings on Democrats to get a deal. He went on to say that “he has no regrets for taking to Twitter to criticize his opponents, including other politicians and the media.”

ATHENAHEALTH CEO SAYS POLITICAL FIGHTS ARE A “DISTRACTION” FOR HEALTH

CARE BUSINESS. [CNBC](#) (4/2, 2.17M) reports on its website Athenahealth CEO Jonathan Bush told CNBC’s “On The Money” in an interview that “shocks from the political system are always a distraction.” The American Health Care Act, “missed a big opportunity to make things a little more competitive and affordable for folks,” Bush told CNBC. He said that many people do not like the current costs of insurance and “would rather not have it.” Bush argued that “what would be better in a free market is the market goes down to where (the uninsured) are, and the market creates (health insurance) products they can afford that they like that they buy.” The story includes a video of the interview.

GOP AGENDA PAUSED AFTER HEALTHCARE BILL COLLAPSE.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (4/3, 400K) reports that House Republican leaders this week “will fill the floor with relatively minor legislation” as the GOP agenda has paused after the AHCA collapse. Repealing Obamacare would have provided “critical tax cut savings that would have greatly eased the monumental task of reforming the tax code.” House Speaker Paul Ryan said, “If we don’t repeal the Obamacare taxes, it is my position that we’re just going to have to leave those taxes over there with Obamacare and reform the rest of the IRS tax code,” adding that it does make tax reform harder.

COMMENTARY CONSIDERS HEALTH REFORM.

Donald M. Berwick, a senior fellow at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement and a former head of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, wrote in an opinion piece in the [New York Times](#) (4/2, SR9, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) that the Trump Administration and House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) will now “try to sabotage” the Affordable Care Act after failing to repeal the law. Berwick asserted Republicans have said “they would let Obamacare explode on its own,” but Berwick argued that Republicans “will not wait passively for a disaster to happen.”

Topher Spiro writes in the [Washington Post](#) (4/3, 11.43M) “Post Everything” that following the defeat of the AHCA, “President Trump said he wanted to work with Democrats on a bipartisan deal to improve the Affordable Care Act.” Spiro argues, “A historic deal is possible, one that would lower premiums and expand coverage – simply by extracting and passing just two parts of the GOP’s measure.” But in order to achieve this goal, Trump must first “build trust with Democrats and provide assurances [to insurers] that he will do everything in his power to make the markets work.”

David Daley, a senior fellow at FairVote, wrote in the [Washington Post](#) (3/29, 11.43M) “PostEverything” blog that “if Republican leaders don’t like” Rep. Mark Meadows (R-NC) “and far-right conservatives like him, they have only their own power grabs to blame.” Daley argued that “Republican gerrymandering efforts have made Meadows and the rest of his Freedom Caucus electorally invincible.”

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/31, 4.52M) editorialized that Republicans “have an opportunity now to do even more damage to” the ACA’s “exchanges – and to their constituents – by reneging on Obamacare’s commitment to help low-income Americans afford care.” The editorial said that “Congress failed to appropriate money” for the ACA’s “cost-sharing” subsidies, and argued that “killing the cost-sharing subsidies would be exactly the wrong thing to do.”

Rep. Tim Walz (D-MN) wrote in an opinion piece in [The Hill](#) (3/31, 1.25M) "Congress Blog" that Republicans and Democrats should work together on healthcare reform. Walz said, "I believe my colleagues on both sides of the aisle share a fundamental core belief: that every single one of our constituents needs access to affordable, high-quality health care."

Michael Hiltzik wrote in his column in the [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/31, 4.52M) that "Republicans in Congress and statehouses across the country harbor an antipathy to Medicaid that is impossible to explain, except as hostility to the poor families that are its chief beneficiaries." Hiltzik argued that many Republican state leaders around the US refuse to expand Medicaid because of "myths" about the program. Hiltzik mentioned that Secretary of Health and Human Services Tom Price has criticized Medicaid on the basis of the number of physicians who do not accept Medicaid patients, but Hiltzik contended that the federal government should raise Medicaid reimbursement rates to address that problem.

Adam Brandon, the president of FreedomWorks, wrote in an opinion piece in [The Hill](#) (3/31, 1.25M) that the American Health Care Act fell "short of Republicans' frequent pledges to repeal ObamaCare." Brandon argued that the Freedom Caucus is being wrongly blamed for failing to repeal the ACA, because "the bill failed to keep Republicans' fundamental promise to repeal and replace ObamaCare."

Brian Dickerson wrote in his column in the [Detroit Free Press](#) (4/1, 1.01M) that "neither side in the health care debate can afford a continuing standoff that preserves the status quo." Dickerson argues that "our elected leaders in Washington are going to have to make a choice: Either they construct a new health care system that strips coverage from tens of millions who obtained it under the Affordable Care Act, or take proactive steps to support and strengthen the superstructure that supports the current health care scheme."

In "The Apothecary" blog, [Forbes](#) (4/2, 15.17M) contributor Avik Roy writes that moderate Republican are blocking a deal to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. Roy argues that although moderate Republicans "campaign on repeal...it's not clear that they really want to repeal the law and face constituents who lost their coverage as a result."

Carl Cannon wrote in a column in the [Orange County \(CA\) Register](#) (3/30, 690K) that one lesson of the Republicans' failure to repeal the Affordable Care Act may be that "the US has simply become ungovernable." Cannon argued that government-subsidized health care has been a contentious issue for decades, and that the country may now be too polarized to compromise on the issue.

Craig Garthwaite, a professor at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management, writes in an opinion piece in [Fortune](#) (4/2, 7.12M) that President Trump "seems to believe he has the option of sitting back and fiddling while the ACA burns, and that his statements and inaction will not result in him being blamed for a possible ACA failure." Garthwaite argues that "the future of the ACA is ultimately in Trump's hands, and if he chooses to continue to sow uncertainty or take other active steps to decrease the viability of the insurance marketplaces, he will rightfully be unable to avoid the fallout from the law's failure."

In "The Apothecary" blog, [Forbes](#) (3/31, 15.17M) contributor Chris Conover wrote that President Donald Trump is a "barrier to success" for Republicans' efforts to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. Conover argued that out of all the Republicans who ran for the party's nomination in the 2016 election, Trump "was the least well-equipped to lead the charge on health reform, both from the standpoint of his knowledge/understanding of the issue, his apparent tepid interest in it, and his lack of concrete policy prescriptions."

Mark Weisbrot, the co-director of the Center for Economic and Policy Research, wrote in an opinion piece in [The Hill](#) (3/31, 1.25M) that the failure of the American Health Care Act "may have

had more to do with the...risks faced by many Republican representatives who feared taking away insurance that most voters want." Weisbrot argued that "Republicans thought they could similarly decimate a program that was designed for low-income people, but this one now has too big of a base."

Jenny Beth Martin, the president and co-founder of Tea Party Patriots, wrote in an opinion piece in the [Washington Times](#) (3/31, 272K) that surveys have consistently found that many Americans support the provision of the Affordable Care Act that requires insurers to cover people regardless of pre-existing conditions, but a recent survey found that support for such a provision drops significantly if it would decrease the quality of healthcare or the cost of healthcare for others. Martin argued that the new survey shows that the public must be educated about the costs of ACA mandates before the law can be repealed.

In letters to the editor of the [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/31, 4.52M), several readers commented on a recent opinion piece written by former Rep. Tom Perriello (D-VA) who voted for the Affordable Care Act in 2010, and then lost his seat in the mid-term election that fall in part because of that vote. One reader praised Perriello for voting for the law despite knowing that it could have, and ultimately, did cost him his seat. Another reader contrasted Perriello's experience with those Republicans who refused to support the American Health Care Act on the grounds that they could lose their seats.

Georgia Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle (R) wrote in an opinion piece in the [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (3/31, 1.41M) that the Affordable Care Act "has failed to keep its promises," because for many years, "our families are subjected to double-digit premium increases, with rising deductibles and increasingly fewer choices." Cagle argued that Georgia's Health Care Reform Task Force will "take advantage of freedom from the federal government to promote a more sustainable system that meets the needs of Georgians – at prices we can all afford."

Stephanie Grace wrote in her column in the [Baton Rouge \(LA\) Advocate](#) (4/1, 75K) that Majority Whip Rep. Steve Scalise (R-LA) said after the American Health Care Act was pulled, "I think we're closer today to repealing Obamacare than we ever were before." Grace argued that "Scalise is not being entirely straight with us," because "he's stuck trying to sell something that most Americans just aren't buying." Grace pointed out that the Secretary of Health and Human Services Tom Price was one of several Republican leaders, along with Scalise, who were chosen for leadership positions because of their "credibility with the House's right flank."

David Millon, a law professor at Washington and Lee University, wrote in an opinion piece in the [Richmond \(VA\) Times-Dispatch](#) (3/31, 324K) that "moderate Republicans should abandon the far right and reach across the aisle to Democrats" to work on healthcare reform. Millon argued that conservative Republicans' ideas concerning healthcare "won't work," so President Trump "and moderate Republicans should join Democrats and embrace the single-payer alternative: government-funded universal coverage."

Ron Faucheux, a nonpartisan pollster and political analyst, wrote in an opinion piece in [The Hill](#) (4/1, 1.25M) that "there is still a way for" Republicans "to grab victory from the jaws of defeat" on healthcare reform. Faucheux argues Republicans should repeal the Affordable Care Act, and then "propose multiple, single-object bills to handle replacement issues."

Kenneth E. Thorpe, a health policy professor at Emory University, wrote in an opinion piece in [Fortune](#) (3/31, 7.12M) that President Trump and Congressional Republicans are restarting negotiations on the American Health Care Act, and Thorpe said that seniors could "lose the most." Thorpe argued that Republicans may try to cut Medicare Part D in order to reduce federal healthcare spending, which could cost many seniors' "lives and money."

Jim Hightower writes for [Salon](#) (4/1, 564K) that the "fundamental cause" of the failure of the American Health Care Act "was not about process but substance." Hightower writes that the bill's

failure was rooted in Americans' disbelief in the "original lie" by President Trump and Congressional Republicans that the Affordable Care Act "is a total failure and the public hates it." While the ACA does have flaws that require fixing, "overall it's been a tremendous success," reducing the number of Americans without health coverage by half and benefiting many Trump supporters. Hightower argues that insurance giants will not completely exit the program as their profits have "soared under Obamacare," with UnitedHealth seeing a 480 percent stock gain since the ACA expansion of Medicaid.

D. Taylor, president of UNITE HERE union, writes for [The Hill](#) (4/2, 1.25M) in its "Pundits Blog" that the Affordable Care Act has been a "godsend" for people with pre-existing and complex conditions, the working poor, women, and others, however "premiums for employer-sponsored health insurance have increased three times faster than inflation" and 31 percent of Americans skip needed care because of costs. "Costs are soaring for things like hospitalization and prescription drugs" amid the "growing monopoly power of big hospital systems" and "unchecked" pharmaceutical firms. Taylor laments that neither party has "taken a credible approach to costs," urging both parties to fix the Affordable Care Act.

In the first of a three-part series, Chris Conover writes for [Forbes](#) (3/31, 15.17M) that following the demise of the American Health Care Act, "universal catastrophic coverage offers the possibility of a bipartisan reform that is politically feasible at an affordable cost." Conover details a number of private sector approaches and outlines Singapore's public model. Conover emphasizes the 2014 Hagopian/Goldman Plan, which would "retain Medicaid and Medicare, aspiring only to cover the 200 million or so Americans who have neither, giving them income-related catastrophic protection from birth until their age of Medicare eligibility" at a cost of an estimated \$2,000 per person.

Steven Brill writes in his column for the [Denver Post](#) (4/2, 778K) that the Trump Administration and Congress have the power to make their Affordable Care Act "death spiral" prediction come true by blocking Section 1402 of the law which essentially "requires insurance companies to waive some of the deductibles and other co-payments for lower-income families." The House sued to block the provision and it is unclear if the Trump Administration will advance an appeal. Similar uncertainty surrounds Section 1342 "risk corridors" program which was "derailed" by a "provision that Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., slipped into a broader spending bill in 2015." Brill argues that "simply reverting to what the law clearly stipulates would help to stabilize the markets."

Blaine Winship writes for the [Washington Times](#) (4/2, 272K) that "there is no legitimate constitutional basis for a centrally-planned national healthcare system." Medicaid should be "drastically altered, and then gradually phased out," and states "should allow private health insurers to offer coverage on a more rational and varied basis that better reflects what customers want." Health insurers "should be allowed to operate across state lines, the better to promote competition and maximize consumer choices," Winship writes.

Healthcare News:

ARKANSAS LATEST STATE TO ENACT PARITY FOR ORAL CANCER MED COPAYS. [STAT](#) (3/31, Robbins) reports that Arkansas has become the latest state to enact legislation that prohibits "certain private insurers from charging cancer patients more in copays if they take chemo in pill form instead of getting it infused into their veins." That makes the state the 43rd to do so, and STAT says "patient groups are pushing similar legislative campaigns in North Carolina, Tennessee, Michigan, and at the federal level." Drug manufacturers are backing the efforts while insurers are mounting "fierce, if increasingly unsuccessful, opposition." STAT says the issue's underlying cause has to do with the price of oral meds for cancer treatment.

DOZENS OF ANTI-ABORTION GROUPS ASK CONGRESS TO DEFUND PLANNED PARENTHOOD. [The Hill](#) (3/31, Hellmann, 1.25M) reported a coalition of 77 anti-abortion groups

wrote a letter "calling on Congress to block Planned Parenthood from receiving federal funds before April recess...through a budget bill that is immune to Democratic filibuster." The organizations have called for the implementation of "reconciliation," a congressional process by which a measure "only needs a simple majority to pass the House and Senate and cannot be filibustered," to remove funding for Planned Parenthood, "while giving more funding to federally qualified health clinics."

Human Services News:

ARIZONA TO CONSIDER BILL REQUIRING WARRANTS TO REMOVE FOSTER CHILDREN FROM HOMES. The [Arizona Republic](#) (3/31, Pitzl, 1.1M) reported the Arizona Legislature will consider a bill that could require "the Department of Child Safety to obtain a warrant prior to removing a child from his or her home," in what "would be a major change for an agency that is often the target of angry parents who complain the state is taking their children for no good reason." Rep. John Allen (R-Scottsdale), who called the measure a "half step" toward requiring warrants for the Arizona welfare program, plans to introduce the bill next week. Supporters hope the bill will institute an additional step into the process of removing children from homes by requiring judicial approval.

MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE SEEKS TO OVERTURN STATE DHHS RULE CHANGE. [MLive \(MI\)](#) (4/1, Gibbons, 878K) reported the Michigan House and Senate could overturn a rule change by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services which requires parents seeking vaccination waivers for their children to "be educated by a local health worker about vaccines, and sign a universal state form" that "includes a statement of acknowledgment that parents understand they could be putting children at risk by refusing the shots." The state has recorded a "35.4 percent decrease in overall waiver rates" since the change was instituted. Sen. Patrick Colbeck (R-Canton), who authored two bills ending the additional requirements, "said in a statement...that the state health agency went beyond the Legislature's intent" by implementing the rule change. A similar bill was introduced in the House Tuesday by Rep. Tom Barrett (R-Pottersville).

Food & Import Safety:

FOOD POLICY EXPERTS HOLDING PROGRAM TO EDUCATE MAINE FARMERS ON FOOD SAFETY MODERNIZATION ACT. The [Bangor \(ME\) Daily News](#) (4/1, Abbate, 165K) reported the Maine Coast Heritage Trust and Knox-Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District are holding an informational program on Thursday night to clear up confusion surrounding the Food Safety Modernization Act, specifically "what the impact and the scope of the law will mean for farms here in Maine." According to Dr. David Handley, a vegetable and small fruit specialist with the University of Maine and the leader of Thursday's program, said, "A lot of Maine farms, in fact most of Maine farms, who sell produce are probably going to find themselves at least partially exempt from these laws," due to exemptions for farms who sold a majority of their "annual value of food directly" to consumers and for farms "who sell primarily in their state and not more than 275 miles from their farm."

Medicaid & CHIP:

FALLOUT FROM GOV. BROWNBACK'S VETO OF MEDICAID EXPANSION CONTINUES. [NBC News](#) (3/31, Fox, 2.67M) reports "[n]ow that the GOP-sponsored American Health Care Act has failed to win support in Congress, governors and state legislatures are taking a hard look at whether that offer of federally funded Medicaid expansion is worth taking up." Kansas' legislature is considering overriding Gov. Sam Brownback's veto of a bill to expand Medicaid. "Virginia and North Carolina are moving toward expansion," while Georgia, Alabama, Idaho Nebraska and South Dakota also consider it. Currently, 19 states are opting out of the expansion, "leaving millions of people in a Medicaid gap – people without employer-provided health insurance who

make too much money to be eligible for Medicaid, and too little to qualify for federal subsidies to help buy private insurance on the Obamacare exchanges." NBC News adds that reports from The Urban Institute, Lewin Group and Rand Corp have all shown that "states will lose billions by not expanding Medicaid."

[Modern Healthcare](#) (4/1, Livingston, Subscription Publication, 241K) reports that, according to the Urban Institute, if all 19 states that have currently opted out were to expand Medicaid, nearly 8 million people would become eligible including 150,000 Kansans, 430,000 Virginians, 624,000 North Carolinians and 791,000 Georgians.

The [Daily Intelligencer \(NY\)](#) (3/31, Kilgore, 795K) says that Gov. Brownback's veto was "a message that should remind everyone that rejection of the expansion has often been about ideology rather than money." The article says that Vox has conducted a recent survey that found any efforts made in Virginia, Maine and Georgia on expanding Medicaid will likely fail.

[NPR](#) (4/2, Kodjak, 1.92M) says Gov. Brownback's veto "had reverberations back in Washington, D.C., because it came just days after Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives failed in their effort to repeal the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare." Kansas State Sen. Barbara Bollier said of the public support for expansion, "I've never had anything like that in the legislature. ... It was just overwhelming support. Not just support; begging, pleading, 'Please, we desperately need this in place.'" Bollier and others are trying to convince two of their colleagues to override the veto in the state senate. Gov. Terry McAuliffe of Virginia (D) is also having difficulty convincing the House Republicans in his state to vote for expansion, where it remains "a long shot." In Maine, "lawmakers have handed the question to the people after that state's governor vetoed measures passed by the legislature five different times."

[Politico](#) (3/31, Pradhan, 2.46M) reports that North Carolina's newly elected governor, Roy Cooper, used his executive power to expand Medicaid only to have Republicans take him to court and block the expansion. Tennessee and Georgia are taking steps to consider partial expansions.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (4/3, Kasperowicz, 400K) reports some "Republicans are wary of states' expanding Medicaid" while House Republicans deliberate on how they will continue to attempt to repeal ACA. HHS Secretary Tom Price and head of Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services, Seema Verma, informed states "that the Trump administration will work with states on waivers and on any changes they want to make to their programs."

MYLAN SILENT ABOUT PROMISE OF HIGHER MEDICAID REBATE IN APRIL. "Mylan is refusing to say if it will begin paying much higher rebates to Medicaid for EpiPen as early as Saturday, as the big drugmaker had previously announced," [CNBC](#) (3/31, Mangan, 2.17M) reports online, and if the company fails to offer the higher rebates, "it could shortchange federal and state Medicaid programs by millions of dollars each month than they otherwise might have felt entitled to." According to CNBC, "Mylan already has enjoyed a six-month grace period on paying the higher rate after announcing in October that it would pay a \$465 million settlement to the U.S. Justice Department to resolve claims it had knowingly shortchanged Medicaid on rebates." Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Sen. Chuck Grassley said Friday, "It's unclear why the company won't confirm its pledge to pay the higher rebate rate. The pledge wasn't just something made casually. It was made in a securities filing."

HHS LIKELY TO USE KENTUCKY'S MEDICAID EXPANSION AS "NATIONAL TEMPLATE." [McClatchy](#) (3/31, Pugh, 74K) reports Health and Human Services Secretary Price "will soon" make the future of Medicaid "clear when the department decides whether Kentucky and Arizona can dramatically revamp their Medicaid expansion efforts." According to McClatchy, if HHS "grants the requests as expected, the measures would mark the first time in the history of the program that benefits would be capped and Medicaid eligibility would be tied to work requirements."

McAuliffe: Virginia GOP Has No More "Excuses" On Medicaid Expansion. In a [Washington Post](#) (3/31, 11.43M) op-ed, Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe argues Virginia Republicans "have a choice to make. They can choose to stand up for health and opportunity for their constituents and a stronger Virginia economy, or they can allow divisive partisan politics to continue to hurt their commonwealth." He calls on state Republican lawmakers to expand Medicaid and says that as "President Trump and Republicans in Congress have failed to repeal the ACA and demonstrated clearly that Medicaid expansion will continue to benefit the states that accept it, the time for excuses is over."

NEW VIRGINIA LEGISLATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE CONSIDERING CHANGES TO MEDICAID PROGRAM. The [Richmond \(VA\) Times-Dispatch](#) (4/1, Martz, 324K) reports that with the Trump Administration's "proposal to cap federal Medicaid payments to states has gotten the attention of key state lawmakers, including those who have blocked expansion under what they call Obamacare" in Virginia. If the caps are implemented, Virginia may lose over \$700 million in funding. A new bipartisan legislative subcommittee has been formed to consider how to handle Virginia's Medicaid program.

Virginia Lt. Governor Northam: Expanding Medicaid Is The Right Thing. In a column in [Hampton Roads \(VA\) Virginian-Pilot](#) (4/2, 302K), Lt. Gov. and gubernatorial candidate Ralph Northam says that after waiting seven years for the Affordable Care Act to be repealed, and the failure of last week's Republican American Health Care Act, it is time for Virginia to expand Medicaid and "provide health care for up to 400,000 hardworking Virginians, including tens of thousands of veterans, and bring \$2.6 billion into our state's economy every year, including creating up to 30,000 new jobs." He also mentions that the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association will cover Virginia's portion of Medicaid expansion and therefore it will be funded fully.

EDITORIAL: PRIVATIZATION OF MEDICAID A JOKE. In an April 1 editorial, the [Des Moines \(IA\) Register](#) (4/1, 377K) said that since Medicaid administration was privatized, the "joke is on low-income lowans who have lost access to health services," on "numerous health care providers underpaid or not paid by the managed care companies," on "taxpayers now funding insurers' administrative costs to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars annually," and on lowans broadly, due to a perceived lack of transparency between the three companies and the state. Although Gov. Terry Branstad marshaled in the current Medicaid regime, he is not being held accountable as he leaves to work for the Trump Administration. The editorial demonstrates how Connecticut went through a similar situation and due to the lack of transparency, as is alleged is happening in Iowa, the private Medicaid insurers were fired.

OPINION: MEDICAID NEEDS IMPROVEMENTS. In an op-ed in the [San Antonio Express-News](#) (4/2, 844K), Children's Hospital Association of Texas president Stacy E. Wilson says Medicaid "is an efficient and effective health coverage program for Texas children," and that the state and federal government should ensure that it remains stable for children. The op-ed cites many advantages for having Medicaid for children, including that they don't increase Medicaid costs, that those on Medicaid are more likely to graduate from high school and attend college, and that they will be more productive and healthier as they grown older. The op-ed says that the current criteria for children under Medicare should not be changed.

LAWMAKERS REACHING OUT TO KANSANS ABOUT OVERRIDING GOV. BROWNBACK'S VETO. The [Lawrence \(KS\) Journal World](#) (4/1, 42K) reports Kansas state Sen. Laura Kelly (D) and state Rep. Fred Patton (R) held a town hall meeting in Silver Lake where 50 people came to urge both of them to override Gov. Brownback's veto. Rep. Patton had previously voted against the expansion saying that with other Kansas programs going underfunded, he could not vote for another area to fund. He has not decided to vote for or against the veto override.

The [Hutchinson \(KS\) News](#) (4/1, 34K) reports another group of bipartisan senators and representatives met with about 75 constituents in Hutchinson, KS to discuss the veto. Reps. Joe

Sweiert and Jack Thimesch, both Republicans who had voted against expansion, were not definitive on whether they would vote to override the veto.

The [Wichita \(KS\) Eagle](#) (4/1, Lowry, Shorman, Woodall, 265K) says that for the remainder of his term, Kansas Gov. Brownback will be facing “a series of veto fights with a state Legislature elected on the promise of undoing his legacy.” According to Political Scientist Chapman Rackaway from Fort Hays State University, “Brownback is unlikely to compromise on Medicaid or other issues” since Brownback, as a lame duck, has no incentive to give in. Brownback has issued 13 vetoes since he began his governorship, but the two vetoes in the present session, on tax reform and Medicaid expansion, have received a considerable amount of negative attention.

Heritage Foundation Analyst Gonshorowski: It Is Not Possible To Make Informed Decision With Current Uncertainty About ACA, Enrollment Expectations. In an op-ed for the [Topeka \(KS\) Capital-Journal](#) (3/31, 106K), Heritage Foundation Senior Analyst Drew Gonshorowski says that “lawmakers would be wise to wait until there is more definitive information available concerning the risks and rewards of Medicaid expansion.” The op-ed says that the Kansas Health Institute estimates that expansion would cost Kansas over \$725 million over the next 7 years. Furthermore, Gonshorowski argues “expansion costs are grossly underestimated and benefits overestimated,” pointing to issues in Oregon since expanding Medicaid. Finally, the op-ed says that ACA repeal is not dead and is another factor that needs to be considered.

EDITORIAL: MEDICAID EXPANSION IS OVERDUE. The [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#) (4/1, 729K) editorializes that Missouri Gov. Eric Greitens should expand Medicaid now that the American Health Care Act has stalled. Gov. Greitens has been spending considerable time with VP and former Indiana governor Mike Pence who ushered in a “Medicaid expansion program loaded with conservative features, mainly a requirement that recipients pay monthly into a health savings plan that offsets insurance payments.” Greitens believes that Missouri will be granted those waivers by the current Administration. Medicaid expansion could help up to 300,000 Missourians.

OPINION: PROPOSED FLORIDA CHANGES TO MEDICAID HURTS PATIENTS AND CAREGIVERS. In an op-ed in the [South Florida Sun Sentinel](#) (4/2, Strowbridge, 581K), home healthcare worker Gwen Strowbridge states that “waiving federal regulations on medical care access and steep cuts to care” will mean that thousands can lose their long-term care program eligibility. The cuts would also affect healthcare workers, who are currently making \$13,300 per year, as well as physicians and hospitals.

ARKANSAS HYBRID MEDICAID EXPANSION PASSES WITHOUT DRAMA THIS YEAR. The [AP](#) (4/1, Demillo) reports that Arkansas lawmakers “reauthorized a budget bill for Medicaid and the expanded coverage” of more than 300,000 individuals. The AP adds, “The program’s reauthorization was also probably eased by the new limits potentially coming to the program. Gov. Asa Hutchinson said in March he’ll seek federal approval to move about 60,000 people off the program and on to the insurance marketplace, and to impose work requirements on some participants.”

ALABAMA NOT MOVING TO EXPAND MEDICAID. The [Montgomery \(AL\) Advertiser](#) (3/31, Lyman, 63K) says that although some states have started considering expanding Medicaid, Alabama is not one of them due to a belief from the state’s Republicans that ACA will still be repealed and replaced. According to the article, without expansion, scheduled cuts under the ACA will hurt many hospitals. Democrats in Alabama are still hoping for expansion.

PLANS FOR MORE MEDICAID DOLLARS TO VIRGINIA HOSPITALS IN TROUBLE. The [Richmond \(VA\) Times-Dispatch](#) (4/2, Martz, 324K) says Gov. Terry McAuliffe and budget leaders fear a “long-pending plan to bring more federal Medicaid dollars to more than two dozen private Virginia hospitals” will cost the state substantial money. The hospitals would receive “supplemental payments” by Virginia’s Medicaid Program; however, last year CMS disallowed

nearly \$27 million in Texas and \$311 million in Louisiana in similar arrangements.

MOORE: GIVE STATES MORE FLEXIBILITY, IT WORKED IN RHODE ISLAND. In an analysis piece in the [Washington Times](#) (4/2, 272K) Stephen Moore, an economic consultant at Freedom Works and a CNN senior economic analyst, says that liberals find the idea of governors having more flexibility in their Medicare programs as “heartless,” the illustration of the Medicaid program in Rhode Island should be mentioned. Beginning in 2009, the state received a waiver in Medicaid rules. Four years later, the “state’s annual cost increases dropped to less than half of the national pace” and that costs “rose an average of only 1.3 percent a year from 2009-2012 — far below the 4.6 percent rate in the other 49 states.”

Health & Medical News:

TRUMP COMMISSION AIMS TO ADDRESS OPIOID EPIDEMIC. The [Washington Times](#) (4/2, Kelly, 272K) reports that with the creation of the Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis last week, President Trump “took a first step in evaluating his administration’s response to the epidemic.” New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie will lead the commission, which will “work closely with the recently created American Office of Innovation, led by presidential adviser Jared Kushner,” but it is “unclear which other persons or organizations also will serve on the commission.”

On its front page, the [Washington Post](#) (4/2, A1, Bernstein, Higham, 11.43M) reports on efforts by the DEA and federal prosecutors to hold Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals, one of the nation’s largest manufacturers of the generic painkiller oxycodone, responsible for “alleged violations of laws designed to prevent diversion of legal narcotics to the black market.” After “four investigations that spanned five states, the government has taken no legal action against Mallinckrodt.” The Post cites “sources familiar with the discussions” who said the company “has reached a tentative settlement with federal prosecutors” under which it “would agree to pay a \$35 million fine and admit no wrongdoing.” The Post says the case is an example of “how difficult it is for the government to hold a drug manufacturer responsible for the damage done by its product.”

HHS REPORT FINDS MASSACHUSETTS LEADS US IN OPIOID-RELATED ER VISITS. The [Boston Globe](#) (4/3, Rocheleau, 1.08M) reports “Massachusetts had the highest rate of opioid-related visits to hospital emergency departments” in the latest report from the Department of Health and Human Services. The state had over 450 visits per 100,000 residents in 2014, and “the second-highest” rate of “opioid-related inpatient stays.” Last week, state officials said a preliminary analysis found the rates increased in 2015.

EPIPEN RECALL EXPANDED. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/31, Armental, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reported that an EpiPen recall has been expanded to include 13 lots that were distributed in the US. According to the [CBS Evening News](#) (3/31, story 9, 0:25, Pelley, 11.17M), the lots “were distributed in 2015 and” 2016.

[Reuters](#) (3/31, Mukhopadhyay) reported that this “announcement comes a week after Mylan said it had recalled about 81,000 EpiPen devices in countries outside the” US “following two reports of the company’s allergy treatment failing to work in emergencies.” [NBC Nightly News](#) (3/31, story 9, 0:30, Guthrie, 16.61M) said the company’s recall “includes the US out of an abundance of the caution.”

[Bloomberg News](#) (3/31, Hopkins, 2.41M) reported that Mylan “said it will replace pens from the recalled lots at no cost, and that people should keep the ones they have until they get their replacements.”

Also covering the story were the [CBS News](#) (3/31, 4.4M) website, [STAT](#) (3/31, Silverman), [CNN](#) (3/31, Ellis, 29.79M), and the [Orange County \(CA\) Register](#) (3/31, Smith, 690K).

SCIENTISTS WORKING TO BETTER DETERMINE REASONS FOR MISCARRIAGES. In continuing coverage, the [Washington Times](#) (4/3, Uhlig) reports that “for many women who lose unborn babies, the reason isn’t at all clear,” and at times, “there is no answer at all to a loss during pregnancy.” The article says this lack of understanding about “what happened or why can add even more emotional pain to an already difficult grieving process.” That is why Dr. Elizabeth McPherson and Diane Allingham-Hawkins of PreventionGenetics, a Marshfield genetic testing lab, are working “together to find a new, better way to determine the causes of pregnancy loss.” The piece points out that this endeavor “is based at its very core on the work of the Human Genome Project,” an international scientific effort which completed “the vast and intricate blueprint that provides the instructions for the development of a human being, according to the National Human Genome Research Institute.”

SOME PHYSICIANS CONTEND PATIENT SATISFACTION SURVEYS FUEL AMERICANS’ DEPENDENCE ON PRESCRIPTION PAIN MEDICATIONS. On its website, [CBS News](#) (4/1, 4.4M) reports that “the government-mandated ‘patient satisfaction survey’ is meant to reward quality and effective care, but some” physicians “say it has had an unintended consequence: fueling Americans’ dependence on prescription pain” medications. CBS points out that “Medicare and Medicaid will stop paying hospitals based on their pain scores beginning October 1.” However, “many hospitals will still use the scores to rate their” physicians, “using reports created by private survey companies.”

BIOGEN WINS DISPUTE OVER ITS PATENTS ON MS MEDICATION. [Reuters](#) (3/31) reports that “a U.S. patent board” has “ruled against...Forward Pharma A/S, finding Biogen’s patents on its blockbuster multiple sclerosis drug Tecfidera [dimethyl fumarate] to be valid.”

The [Boston Globe](#) (3/31, Weisman, 1.08M) reports that “the decision means Biogen...won’t have to pay royalties sought by” Forward Pharma “on US revenue from the” medication, “which generated sales of nearly \$4 billion last year.” The [Boston Business Journal](#) (3/31, Stendahl, Subscription Publication, 90K) also covers the story.

FEDERAL JUDGE STRIKES DOWN PATENTS HELD BY ACORDA RELATED TO DALFAMPRIDINE. [Reuters](#) (3/31, Wolfe) reports that “a federal judge in Delaware” has “struck down key patents held by Acorda Therapeutics Inc related to its multiple sclerosis drug Ampyra [dalfampridine].” This ruling “opens the door for generic versions of the” medication.

ADVANCES IN NEOANTIGEN-GUIDED CANCER IMMUNOTHERAPY DETAILED. [The Scientist](#) (4/1, Schoenberger, Cohen, 151K) reported on “therapies aimed at modulating the body’s immune cells to more effectively fight its cancer” that can help destroy tumors while avoiding “collateral damage” to healthy tissue. The piece describes how cancer forms from “function-altering mutations” that create “tumor-specific neoantigens, which can be recognized by the T lymphocytes that are tasked with detecting foreign invaders in the body.” Researchers are “working to improve methods for identifying neoantigens in human cancer, in hopes of being able to develop personalized vaccine and cellular therapy approaches,” and have launched a series of trials of neoantigen-guided immunotherapy.

RESEARCHERS, STUDIES DIVIDED ON ACRYLAMIDE CANCER RISK. [The Scientist](#) (4/1, Kwon, 151K) reported that acrylamide, a known carcinogen in animals, is “present in carbohydrate-rich foods that were prepared at high temperatures, such as chips, French fries, bread, and crackers.” The presence of acrylamide in these foods was first discovered in 2002, and since then, “various health authorities, including the US Food and Drug Administration and the European Food Safety Authority, have urged consumers to reduce the consumption of acrylamide-producing products.” While several studies since the discovery have found that acrylamide intake is associated with increased cancer risk in humans, others have not. Some researchers are now calling for “more studies using biological markers are needed to confirm whether acrylamide really is carcinogenic in humans,” while others believe that limited public health dollars “would have a bigger impact on reducing cancer in the population through other

means."

PERSON'S LOCATION WITHIN A TIME ZONE AFFECTS CANCER RISK, STUDY

SUGGESTS. [LiveScience](#) (4/2, Miller, 332K) reports "where you live within your time zone could be associated with a slightly increased risk of developing certain cancers" linked to biological clock disruptions, researchers at the National Cancer Institute found in an analysis of "data on 4 million white adults who had been diagnosed with cancer between 2000 and 2012" living in "more than 600 counties in 11 states." The results revealed "that for every 5 degrees of longitude toward the west that a person lived from the eastern edge of their time zone, his or her risk of developing any type of cancer increased by 3 percent in men and 4 percent in women." The findings were presented at the American Association for Cancer Research's annual meeting on Sunday.

CANCER PATIENTS HAVE 55% GREATER RISK OF SUICIDE, STUDY SUGGESTS. [The Guardian \(UK\)](#) (4/2, Siddique, 4.07M) reports "cancer patients have a 55% greater risk of suicide than people without" the disease, according to "extremely preliminary" analysis of data from 15 studies "published between 1983 and 2015 from Australia, Canada, China, Norway, South Korea, Sweden, the UK, and the US." The analysis "has not yet been submitted to a medical journal for publication" because it is ongoing, but the current [findings](#) will be presented at this week's European Congress of Psychiatry in Florence, Italy.

UT RESEARCHERS STUDY GENETIC CANCER RISKS. Rose Zolondek, a student pursuing a philosophy doctorate at the University of Toledo college of medicine and life sciences biomedical science program, writes at the [Toledo \(OH\) Blade](#) (4/3, Zolondek, 208K) that university researchers are investigating genetic differences in lung cancer risk by analyzing single nucleotide polymorphisms. She explains, "if certain SNPs occur in specific genetic sequences, they can inhibit DNA from being repaired properly, which increases the chance of lung cancer." Using rapid genome sequencing, the researchers looking for SNP sequences associated with lung cancer, which can "better identify high risk individuals who may have the best benefit from regular screenings."

EXPERTS: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE COULD "REVOLUTIONIZE" SENIOR CARE. [U.S. News & World Report](#) (3/31, Laponsie, 1.02M) reported that many tech and healthcare industry experts believe artificial intelligence "has the potential to revolutionize how care is delivered to a senior population that is about to explode in number." In particular, AI shows great promise "in applications to help people stay in their homes longer." AI "smart sensors" can track movements, monitor vital signs, and alert a nurse or family member "if anything abnormal should occur."

ORAL SEX TIED TO INCREASE IN HPV-RELATED CANCERS, RESEARCH SUGGESTS. The [Washington Post](#) (4/2, Schaaff, 11.43M) reports, "There is no doubt in the medical community that the increase in HPV-related cancers...is caused by sexual practices" including oral sex. The article reports that "the number of people diagnosed with HPV-related oropharyngeal cancer [OPC]...is relatively small," but the number is expected to increase by 2020. The article also reports that HPV-16, one type of HPV, has been "identified in more than half of cancers in the oropharynx, according to the National Cancer Institute."

OPINION: MEDICAL MISSION TRIPS CAN BE GOOD FOR PATIENTS AND PHYSICIANS. Dr. Elaine Cox, the medical director of infection prevention at Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health in Indianapolis, wrote in an opinion piece in [U.S. News & World Report](#) (3/31, Cox, 1.02M) that medical mission trips can be good for patients and physicians. Cox said she is passionate about "understanding the keys to physician well-being," and pointed out that she has found many physicians will put up with administrative work if they can do what they are passionate about 20% of the time. Cox wrote that medical mission trips are often opportunities for physicians to do what they are passionate about.

EXPERTS CONCERNED ABOUT DEPICTIONS OF SMOKING IN MOVIES. [U.S. News & World Report](#) (3/31, Esposito, 1.02M) reported experts are concerned about the depiction of smoking in

movies that young people may see. The article reported that smoking rates among youth are declining, but a substantial number of teenagers still smoke, according to Dr. David Hill, the chairman of the American Academy of Pediatrics' Council on Communications and Media. Hill said, "We know that if people don't initiate tobacco use while they're children or teenagers, they almost never do so in adulthood. Essentially, if they don't catch you by age 19, they're probably not going to get you." Hill also said, "We know that there's a dose-dependent effect between exposure to tobacco use in movies and television shows and a child's subsequent risk of tobacco use." The article also mentioned that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that almost 60% of top-grossing PG-13 movies showed tobacco use "in its latest fact sheet on smoking in the movies."

WEARABLE DEVICE THAT DELIVERS ELECTRICAL FIELDS THROUGH SCALP MAY HELP EXTEND SURVIVAL OF PATIENTS WITH LETHAL BRAIN TUMORS, STUDY SUGGESTS. In "To Your Health," the [Washington Post](#) (4/2, McGinley, 11.43M) reports that research indicated "a wearable medical device that delivers electrical fields through the scalp helped to extend the survival of patients with lethal brain tumors." This "treatment was used to administer alternating, low-intensity 'tumor-treating fields' to newly diagnosed glioblastoma patients who also were getting chemotherapy." These "electrical fields may block the division of cancer cells and cause their demise, according to Roger Stupp, the study's lead investigator."

The [AP](#) (4/2, Marchione) reports that the investigators found that "more than twice as many patients were alive five years after getting it, plus the usual chemotherapy, than those given just the chemo – 13 percent versus 5 percent." The findings were presented at an American Association for Cancer Research meeting.

OPINION: GENETIC MODIFICATIONS REQUIRE VIGILANCE, ETHICAL TACT. According to author and [Boston Globe](#) (4/2, Rochman, 1.08M) contributor Bonnie Rochman, "A future in which 'designer babies' can be created, tweaked, and polished is not a matter of if, but when." Rochman offers the example of Editas Medicine, which is already implementing steps toward fighting disease by "trying to train CRISPR's repair kit on Duchenne muscular dystrophy," and by the end of 2017 "plans to file with the Food and Drug Administration to begin clinical trials applying gene editing to...Leber congenital amaurosis 10." With the establishment of programs such as China's Cognitive Genomics project, some argue that gene-editing might afford scientists the opportunity to target mutations that predispose people to illnesses. Rochman considers questions of ethics surrounding the capacity to edit genetic material, warning that "this technology is ripe for abuse."

HAVE FRANK DISCUSSION WITH PHYSICIAN AHEAD OF SURGERY REGARDING PAIN CONTROL MEDICATIONS, EXPERT ADVISES. The [CBS News](#) (3/31, Marcus, 4.4M) website reported that "medical experts talked with CBS News about what to expect when it comes to using prescription opioids to manage severe pain and how to talk with your doctor and educate yourself ahead of time in order to help avoid" addiction. It is now "more important than ever that you have a frank discussion with your doctor ahead of surgery about what he or she is giving you for pain control afterward and how long you should expect to be on it, said Dr. John Renner, vice-chair of the American Psychiatric Association's Council on Addiction Psychiatry and a professor of psychiatry at Boston University School of Medicine." Currently, approximately "80 percent of the world's prescription opioids are used by the US, where 207 million opioid prescriptions were issued in 2013, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse."

Stem Cell News:

HILTZIK WARNS OF UNAPPROVED STEM CELL THERAPIES AT SAN DIEGO CLINIC. In his [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/31, 4.52M) column, Michael Hiltzik warned readers about La Jolla-based StemGenex Medical Group's stem cell treatment. He underscored that the treatment is not approved "by the Food and Drug Administration, which says such treatments are 'not based on scientific evidence' and can be unsafe. Then there was the cost: about \$15,000, not including airfare." According to Hiltzik, "People's health needs are not suitable for unregulated Wild West

experimentation, and anecdotal feedback isn't proof that 'cutting edge' treatments are safe and effective." He concluded, "The course couldn't be clearer for the FDA and state medical regulators across the country: If these stem cell clinics are endangering their customers' health and draining their pocketbooks for quack remedies, shut them down."

Global Health:

CHINA CONFIRMS 6 MORE BIRD FLU CASES; ONE DEAD. [Reuters](#) (4/2, Cadell) reports China has confirmed an additional six cases of H7N9 bird flu, including one death in Hunan. According to Reuters, Xinhua news agency reported that the provincial center for disease control and prevention confirmed the infections last week. The news agency also said that in the provincial capital of Changsha, a ban on live poultry trading has been in effect since March 17 and will continue for another five days. The article adds, "The number of human infections this season has surged to the highest level since 2009."

MYANMAR TRAINS MIDWIVES TO ADDRESS MATERNAL MORTALITY RATES. [Reuters](#) (4/1, Myint) reported Myanmar is offering professional training to midwives through a new initiative aimed at reducing the number of women who die during childbirth. The Central Midwifery School in Yangon will train approximately 200 midwifery students and post them in "remote clinics with poor infrastructure and bare-bones medical facilities." Support for the training program comes from the United Nations Population Fund, which "says Myanmar must tackle maternal mortality in order to raise living standards."

SOMALI CHOLERA CRISIS WORSENS, AID OFFICIALS FEAR FAMINE IS IMMINENT. [Reuters](#) (3/31, Obulutsa) reported "drought-ravaged" Somalia continues to battle cholera "as clean water sources dry up, a top aid official said." Johan Heffinck, the Somalia head of EU Humanitarian Aid, wrote in an email that the country is "very close to famine." Somalia faces "a severe drought that means more than half of its 12 million citizens are expected to need aid by July." The country has recorded more than 18,000 cholera cases this year, many of which include concomitant cases of tuberculosis, meningitis, and measles, according to one physician.

UN SPECIAL ADVISER SPEAKS ON INFECTIOUS DISEASE MANAGEMENT. [Reuters](#) (3/31, Moloney) reported special adviser to the UN secretary-general and physician David Nabarro, "who is in the race to be next head of the World Health Organization," spoke with Reuters about how to increase infectious disease management in struggling countries. Nabarro said infectious disease cannot be managed "with white coats and" outside control, but that the "first thing...is to make sure there is capacity in countries to deal with problems early." For diseases like cholera, Nabarro said they "can be managed very effectively," but that the "world needs to come together" to help struggling communities. The piece added, "If elected as WHO's new head in May, Nabarro, the U.N.'s special envoy for Ebola during the crisis in 2014-15, faces the task of restoring confidence in the global health body."

National News:

MCCONNELL EXPECTED TO INVOKE "NUCLEAR OPTION" TO CONFIRM GORSUCH THIS WEEK. Coverage and analysis of the Supreme Court nomination of Neil Gorsuch is in agreement that he will most likely be on the bench by the end of the week – and there is also an emerging consensus on how he will get there. Though Sen. Joe Donnelly has become the third Democrat to come out in favor of President Trump's nominee, the filibuster promised by Senate Minority Leader Schumer seems likely to hold, and Senate Majority Leader McConnell reiterated Sunday that he will change Senate rules – executing the so-called "nuclear option" – to break the filibuster and permit confirmation without a 60-vote cloture threshold. Though reports say that the end result is not in doubt, McConnell's likely method is cast as a dramatic change to a divided Senate.

All three broadcast networks previewed the coming fight, but while CBS and NBC ran detailed

stories relatively early in their broadcasts, ABC ran a shorter report farther in. On the [CBS Weekend News](#) (4/2, story 3, 1:05, Ninan), Errol Barnett reported that McConnell “predicted a win for the President.” McConnell: “Neil Gorsuch will be confirmed this week. How that happens is depends on our Democratic friends.” Barnett: “Democrats are in no mood to cooperate, and may filibuster the vote, which could delay it indefinitely. To maneuver around that, McConnell would need to permanently change Senate rules, a so-called ‘nuclear option’ the President supports.”

[NBC Nightly News](#) (4/2, story 4, 2:05, Snow, 16.61M) reported that “a showdown is coming this week” over Gorsuch, and NBC’s Kelly O’Donnell said Gorsuch “could begin a lifetime appointment to the Supreme Court by Friday. ... Republicans need eight Democrats to move Gorsuch nomination to a final vote.” On Sunday, “Donnelly announced his support, joining West Virginia’s Joe Manchin and North Dakota’s Heidi Heitkamp, Democrats from red states Trump won.” But since Gorsuch is unlikely to win over five more Democrats, O’Donnell said, “expect to see a dramatic step known as the ‘nuclear option.’” [ABC World News Tonight](#) (4/2, story 7, 0:35, Wright, 14.63M) reported that over the weekend, Vice President Pence “suggested the White House would endorse changing Senate rules in order to shut down a filibuster.” Pence: “We will overcome the obstructionists. And the United States Senate will confirm Judge Neil Gorsuch, one way or another.”

[USA Today](#) (4/2, Wolf, 5.28M) says that the Senate Judiciary Committee will vote Monday on Gorsuch “just 62 days after his nomination by President Trump – a vote Republicans denied” to President Obama’s nominee Merrick Garland “for 293 days last year. That will set the stage for a showdown before week’s end in which Gorsuch’s confirmation isn’t really in doubt, but how it is achieved will have a profound impact on the high court, the Senate and the 2018 elections.”

The [New York Times](#) (4/2, Schmidt, Weiland, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that while there are 10 Democrats who represent states won by Trump who are up for re-election in 2018, Donnelly, Heitkamp, and Manchin may be the only ones to cross party lines. Montana Sen. Jon Tester, whose state went for Trump by 20 points, “said Sunday evening that he would oppose Judge Gorsuch, dealing a big blow to Republicans’ hopes of reaching 60 votes.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/2, Peterson, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports that Missouri Sen. Claire McCaskill, whose state went for Trump by nearly 19 points, also opposes Gorsuch. Pennsylvania Sen. Bob Casey and Michigan Sen. Debbie Stabenow, who represent states Trump won by less than one point each, have also announced their opposition. The [AP](#) (4/2) and [Politico](#) (4/2, Schor, 2.46M) report on Donnelly’s decision to back Gorsuch.

McConnell said on [Fox News Sunday](#) (4/2, Wallace), “We will confirm Judge Gorsuch this week.” When asked if he would use the “nuclear option,” McConnell said that while it is not yet certain that will be necessary, “Judge Gorsuch is going to be confirmed” and “the way in which that occurs is in the hands of the Democratic minority.” McConnell similarly said on [NBC’s Meet The Press](#) (4/2, Todd, 157K), “I can tell you that Neil Gorsuch will be confirmed this week. How that happens really depends on our Democratic friends.”

The [Washington Post](#) (4/2, O’Keefe, 11.43M) says the vote “will likely reshape how the Senate confirms future justices.” After Gorsuch’s near-certain advance through the Judiciary Committee today, three days of formal debate will “begin Tuesday with Republicans planning to confirm Gorsuch by Friday. That timeline would give the 49-year-old federal appeals court judge a chance to join the high court in late April and to participate in the final cases of this year’s term, which ends in June.”

Schumer said on [NBC’s Meet The Press](#) (4/2, Todd, 157K) that requiring 60 votes for a Supreme Court justice is “how you get a mainstream justice. Mitch calls it a filibuster. We call it the 60 votes standard. Most Americans believe in the 60-vote standard.” The [Washington Times](#) (4/2, Richardson, 272K) reports that Schumer “says it’s ‘highly unlikely’” that Gorsuch can reach 60 votes. But Senate Majority Whip Cornyn, on [CBS’ Face The Nation](#) (4/2, Dickerson, 4.61M), condemned the “unprecedented...partisan filibuster of a Supreme Court nominee.” (The [AP](#) (4/2,

Woodward) writes in a "Fact Check" item that while "if Democrats were to succeed in blocking Gorsuch, it would be a first for the nomination of a judge to join the court," though the nomination of Justice Abe Fortas to become chief justice in 1968 "was killed by a filibuster.")

The [New York Post](#) (4/2, Linge, 3.82M) says that McConnell and Schumer "are headed for a high-stakes staring contest" over the fate of the judicial filibuster. [Politico](#) (4/2, Meyer, 2.46M) writes that McConnell "harshly criticized Democrats back in 2013 for unilaterally changing the Senate's rules to allow confirmation of other presidential appointees, including cabinet appointees, by a simple majority."

McConnell also said on [NBC's Meet The Press](#) (4/2, Todd, 157K) that he doesn't regret how he treated Garland's nomination last year. McConnell said, "The tradition had been not to confirm vacancies created in the middle of a presidential year." When pressed on whether he would pass a resolution that no Supreme Court nominations will be considered in any election year, McConnell called it "an absurd question." [Breitbart](#) (4/2, Key, 2.02M) reports that Schumer said of Garland, "Mitch McConnell broke 230 years of precedent and didn't call him up for a vote. ... Now it looks like we have the votes to prevent Gorsuch from getting on. ... Let's sit down and come together. ... Work with us and we will produce a mainstream nominee."

Most of the [Twitter discussion](#) surrounded those Democrats who remain undecided, with many of those on both sides posting their office contact information. David Sirota of the International Business Times [tweeted](#), "GORSUCH: I literally threaten everything Dems say they stand for. HOLDOUT DEM SENATORS: We are undecided on whether he should be confirmed." But conservative author Dinesh D'Souza [tweeted](#), "How flawlessly @realDonaldTrump handled his first Supreme Court pick--filibuster or no, Gorsuch should be confirmed this week."

The [Washington Times](#) (4/2, Swoyer, 272K) writes that "Democrats still are searching for a consensus line of attack" against Gorsuch, with "complaints" including "his refusal to answer questions about how he would rule on major topics likely to come before the court and his rulings as an appeals court judge in cases where he sided with an illegal immigrant who was trying to gain leniency, against a truck driver who abandoned his rig, and against a disabled student who had sued to demand a better public education."

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (4/2, Savage, 4.52M) writes that "confirming Gorsuch to fill the seat vacated when Justice Antonin Scalia died last year has been a top priority for conservatives. A group backing the nominee has spent millions in television ads to put pressure" on Democrats in 2016 "red states" to not stand in his way. [Bloomberg Politics](#) (4/2, Brody, 201K) and [Reuters](#) (4/2, Schroeder) also report on the Sunday show remarks from McConnell and Schumer.

USA Today: Gorsuch "About The Best Choice" That Could Be Expected From Trump. [USA Today](#) (4/2, 5.28M) backs Gorsuch's confirmation in an editorial, writing that "Democrats have good reason to be outraged by the Republicans' rush to confirm" Gorsuch after Garland's experience, but stating that Gorsuch "deserves to be evaluated on his own merits. By traditional measures, Gorsuch is a reasonable heir to the seat held by Scalia," and he "is about the best choice the country can expect from this president; in fact, the nomination was one of the least objectionable things Trump has done since taking office."

However, People For The American Way President Michael Keegan calls Gorsuch an "extreme nominee" in a [USA Today](#) (4/2, Keegan, 5.28M) op-ed, writing that "Democrats are rightfully angry at the shoddy treatment" that Garland received from Republicans, "but that's not why senators should oppose" Gorsuch. Keegan says that Gorsuch "is not a mainstream conservative nominee," and is actually "among the most extreme conceivable choices for our nation's highest court."

Trump Will No Longer Ask ABA To Evaluate Federal Court Candidates. The [Washington Times](#) (4/1, Noble, 272K) reported that President Trump "will not ask the American Bar

Association to evaluate candidates for federal judgeships before formally nominating them for the more than 100 existing judicial vacancies – a departure from a practice that previously has been criticized for bias against Republican nominees.” The ABA first began evaluating potential nominees in 1953, with only President George W. Bush breaking from the practice since then.

MEDIA ANALYSES: TRUMP “ISOLATED,” LOOKING FOR A WIN AMID GOP DIVISIONS.

The [Washington Post](#) (4/2, Phillip, Costa, 11.43M) writes under the headline “Trump Remains The Center Of Attention, But He’s Increasingly Isolated Politically” that the President stayed in Washington this weekend, “tweeting in the morning, holding meetings at the White House and heading to his Virginia golf club on Sunday – all the time surrounded by aides and patrons yet, increasingly, politically marooned.” The Post writes that Trump, “weighed down by dismal approval ratings,” has been “unable to wrangle enough allies in Congress to advance his agenda” and is having a hard time building a legislative coalition or finding defenders outside the walls of the White House. The Post says Trump’s short presidency has been “lacking in significant victories” and “beset by major stumbles.”

[Axios](#) (4/2, Swan) writes that a “legislative minefield” lays ahead for Trump, with the continuing resolution, the debt ceiling increase, and the budget all on the agenda, as well as the President’s own push for tax reform and a renewed effort on healthcare. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/2, Nicholas, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports that the President issued a call for Republican unity on Sunday, [tweeting](#), “Anybody (especially Fake News media) who thinks that Repeal & Replace of Obamacare is dead does not know the love and strength in R Party!” He then [tweeted](#), “Talks on Repealing and Replacing Obamacare are, and have been, going on, and will continue until such time as a deal is hopefully struck.” The Journal says that Trump has veered wildly in his approach toward dissenters within the GOP since the failure of the American Health Care Act, sometimes praising them while other times denouncing them or threatening them with primary challenges in 2018. But the [Washington Times](#) (4/2, Richardson, 272K) reports that House Freedom Caucus member Rep. Jim Jordan “downplayed Mr. Trump’s threats,” saying on CNN’s State Of The Union, “Competition is fine. I’ve never shied away from competition. If that’s what happens, that’s what happens.”

The [Washington Times](#) (4/2, 272K) reports that NBC’s Chuck Todd “is warning President Trump not to ‘make enemies’ with Congress if he wants to implement his agenda.” Todd said on NBC’s Today, “He’s got to essentially stop making enemies. If he attacks Democrats and the Freedom Caucus at the same time...suddenly he’s attacking a majority in Congress. And that would be a majority that he would be fighting.”

Maggie Haberman of the New York Times said on [CNN’s Inside Politics](#) (4/2, 303K) that “the Trump White House is so not operating from a position of strength right now. ... What Trump had before was the ability to scare people and intimidate them. When that goes – I mean essentially what we saw with the AHCA fight, the President blinked, and these guys know it, and you’re seeing it on Twitter.” Guy Benson said on [Fox News’ MediaBuzz](#) (4/2, 536K), “I think the media loves to stoke the embers of internal uproar in the Republican Party, but in this case I think it’s justified.”

Scavino Defiant As Ethics Experts Criticize Anti-Amash Tweet. The [Washington Post](#) (4/2, Gold, 11.43M) reports that “ethics experts” say that [a tweet](#) by White House social media director Dan Scavino urging supporters of the President to defeat Freedom Caucus member Rep. Justin Amash in a 2018 GOP primary may have violated the Hatch Act, which “prohibits officials from using their positions for political activity.” Richard Painter, chief White House ethics lawyer under President George W. Bush, told the Post, “We would have fired him. ... This is use of official position for a partisan election. You can’t avoid it.” But Scavino remains defiant, [tweeting](#) in response to a reporter’s query, “What ‘ethics lawyers?’ The ones from the Obama Admin who want to take Trump down, or the Bush Admin who were #NeverTrump? No thanks!” The [New York Post](#) (4/2, Moore, 3.82M) reports that the White House defending him, “saying Scavino used his ‘personal’ account to send the message”

Jeb Bush Calls For GOP Unity, "Presidential Leadership." The [New York Post](#) (4/2, Moore, 3.82M) reports that during an interview with New York talk radio host John Catsimatidis, Jeb Bush "scolded GOP lawmakers for their disunity and called on President Trump to provide leadership." Bush said, "We haven't come up with a compelling, unifying agenda. Presidential leadership would be helpful here."

Huckabee Sanders: Media Fixated On "Something That Doesn't Exist." [Breitbart](#) (4/2, Key, 2.02M) reports that during an appearance on Fox News' MediaBuzz, White House deputy press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders "said the media are focusing on stories that aren't real instead of... Trump's accomplishments." She said, "The media constantly wants to talk about something that doesn't exist instead of something that does. We've spent the last couple of months doing major policy initiatives and roll-outs. ... And yet, the media refuses to cover that. They're more than happy to talk about a story, frankly, that is just fake and it's time to move on."

SCHIFF: TRUMP TRYING TO DISTRACT ATTENTION FROM RUSSIA INVESTIGATION.

Issues surrounding the ongoing investigation of possible collusion between President Trump's campaign and Russia were once again a major topic of conversation on the Sunday political talk shows. The tone of the reporting is somewhat negative toward the Administration, as remarks from lawmakers and pundits criticizing Trump and House Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes – particularly House Intelligence Committee ranking Democrat Rep. Adam Schiff's claim that Trump's wiretapping allegations are an effort to distract from the investigation – garner more attention than comments from those defending them.

Erroll Barnett reported on the [CBS Weekend News](#) (4/2, story 4, 1:30) that Trump [tweeted](#) on Sunday, "The real story turns out to be SURVEILLANCE and LEAKING! Find the leakers." However, Rep. Adam Schiff, the ranking Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, Adam Schiff, "sees behavior from the White House as suspicious." Schiff said Sunday that President Trump's allegations concerning illegal wiretapping and news leaks are intended to distract attention from the larger investigation into potential collusion between Trump's campaign and Russians seeking to influence last year's election. [USA Today](#) (4/2, Jackson, 5.28M) reports that Schiff told [CNN's State Of The Union](#), "I would tell people, whenever they see the president use the word 'fake,' it ought to set off alarm bells." The [New York Post](#) (4/2, Moore, 3.82M) quotes Schiff as saying, "You can say a lot of things about the president, but one thing you cannot say is, he's not subtle. And I think his tweets tell the story. And the story is look over there at leaks and look over there at anything the Obama administration we can claim did wrong...but under no circumstances look here at me or at Russia."

The [Washington Post](#) (4/2, Parker, 11.43M) says Schiff argued that the actions of the White House and Nunes, who "made a point of racing to the White House to brief President Trump on intelligence he had viewed," proved that they were seeking to "distract from the broader question of what role, if any, Russia had played in the US election." Schiff said, "It certainly is an attempt to distract and to hide the origin of the materials, to hide the White House hand. ... The question is, of course, why? And I think the answer to the question is this effort to point the Congress in other directions, basically say, 'Don't look at me, don't look at Russia, there is nothing to see here.'" However, [Washington Times](#) (4/2, Richardson, 272K) reports that Schiff also told [CNN's State Of The Union](#), "We can say, conclusively, this is something that needs to be thoroughly investigated. ... But it's way premature to be reaching conclusions."

Asked about Trump's comments that the investigation of Russian influence in the US election is a witch-hunt, Assistant Senate Majority Leader John Cornyn said on [CBS' Face The Nation](#) (4/2, Dickerson, 4.61M), "It is a legitimate area of inquiry." He added, "There is no question that Putin is trying to undermine our democracy and undermine public confidence in our institutions." Chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Sen. John McCain, said on [ABC's This Week](#) (4/2, Raddatz, 6.61M), "The fact is, we know for a fact, the Russians tried to change the outcome of our election. Attacking the very fundamentals of democracy."

Senate Majority Leader McConnell took a more equivocal tone, saying on [Fox News Sunday](#) (4/2, Wallace), "I asked the Senate Intelligence Committee to investigate all of these allegations. Senator Burr and Senator Warner are going forward on a very constructive and bipartisan basis. The only thing I asked them to do was to find out what happened, and once they found out what happened, hopefully they will be able to issue a unanimous report and we will all know what, if anything, based on these allegations." McConnell also said on [Fox News Sunday](#) (4/2, Wallace) that a 9/11-style commission or special counsel is "just not necessary, based on what we know now." Similarly, McConnell told [NBC's Meet the Press](#) (4/2, Todd, 157K), "I think the American people can depend on the Senate intelligence committee investigation to be done on a bipartisan basis and to go wherever the facts lead us."

Meanwhile, [Reuters](#) (4/2, Chiacu) reports that White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders told [Fox News MediaBuzz](#) (4/2, 536K) on Sunday that there is no evidence of Trump campaign collusion with Russia to win the election, and, it is time to "move on."

Maggie Haberman of the New York Times said on [CNN Inside Politics](#) (4/2, 303K), "The White House has been unable to get out of its own way on this. Part of that, as you know, is that this President, when he feels like he is under attack, he attacks back. But now he is punching at ghosts and hitting himself in the face." Jackie Kucinich of The Daily Beast said on [CNN Inside Politics](#) (4/2, 303K), "If it was just the tweets maybe they could move past it. It's not. It is like quick sand. The more they thrash, the deeper they go into this. ... That is a trend throughout this investigation and throughout this issue with Russia. Something else comes up and it doesn't answer any questions."

Nunes' actions and their impact on the investigation were also a subject of much discussion Sunday. In an appearance on ABC's "This Week," Sen. John McCain blamed Nunes "for destroying the bipartisan nature of the committee's investigation into Russian meddling in the 2016 election," [Politico](#) (4/2, Meyer, 2.46M) reports. McCain, who "called the whole episode 'bizarre,'" told ABC, "If we're really going to get to the bottom of these things, it's got to be done in a bipartisan fashion. ... And as far as I could tell, Congressman Nunes killed that."

Democratic lawmakers were also highly critical of Nunes. For example, Rep. Eric Swalwell said on [MSNBC AM Joy](#) (4/2) that Nunes is "not credible...in this investigation, and he should be as far away from it as possible." Swalwell added that "the White House sought to work with and use the chairman as a way to try to validate the President's wiretapping claims. The only way to get back on track and have a real credible investigation that makes progress is for him to step aside."

Rep. Dan Kildee said on [MSNBC's Weekends with Alex Witt](#) (4/2, 222K), "I think Chairman Nunes has really tainted the integrity of the committee itself by seemingly working hand and glove with the White House around an investigation that involves the White House itself or people associated with the White House. So, what the chairman has done really goes beyond politics. It gets right to the integrity of the committee and oversight responsibility that Congress has."

Asked on [MSNBC's Weekends with Alex Witt](#) (4/2, 222K) if the committee can investigate this issue in a nonpartisan way, Rep. Denny Heck said, "Sure, it could and it could with a simple act of a phone call by Chairman Nunes. All he has to do is pick up the phone, call the committee back together, share that what he knows from this bizarre ham-handed back-and-forth with the White House thing. ... So one phone call, we could get this back on track."

Defending Nunes, Rep. Jason Lewis said on [CNN's State Of The Union](#) (4/2, Tapper, 420K), "A whistle-blower came to the chairman and said we have this information that incidental collection has captured US citizens, what was he supposed to do?"

Juan Williams said on [Fox News MediaBuzz](#) (4/2, 536K), "The question is whether the White House has been using Nunes to stop the course of that investigation, or to give a stage to people

who would testify there was nothing going on."

Rep. Andre Carson said on [MSNBC's Weekends with Alex Witt](#) (4/2, 222K), "I think that the President is a great showman. ... But the greater truth is Flynn, Manafort and other associates and their connection to Russia an this influence campaign that Russia was involved with in terms of releasing bots and in terms of having other actors sway folks to vote for Trump."

Lawmakers Skeptical About Immunity For Flynn. [Politico](#) (4/2, Meyer, 2.46M) report that Schiff told [CNN's State Of The Union](#) he has a "very healthy skepticism" about "whether it's worth granting immunity to Michael Flynn, President Donald Trump's former national security adviser, in exchange for his testimony." Schiff questioned whether Flynn "really can add value to our investigation, whether we need him to learn information we can't learn from other sources." Schiff added, "There is a lot we need to learn before entertaining anything like this." Similarly, Cornyn said on [CBS' Face The Nation](#) (4/2, Dickerson, 4.61M) that Flynn's immunity request is "not uncommon. But I think it's premature," as there's many other witnesses to talk to first. The [New York Post](#) (4/2, Schultz, 3.82M) reports that Sen. Mark Warner, ranking Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee, said Sunday, "We are not ready to consider that. ... We are not even publicly acknowledging that he has contacted us."

In contrast, Rep. Jason Lewis said on [CNN's State Of The Union](#) (4/2, Tapper, 420K) "Telling somebody they ought to get immunity when you're going in front of Congress is probably the smart legal thing to do."

John Dickerson said on the [CBS Weekend News](#) (4/2, story 5, 2:25, Ninan), "Critics hope this connects the President himself with the Russian efforts to influence the election. Another way to look at this though is in a highly partisan environment where there are two congressional investigations and an FBI investigation, that Mr. Flynn may have exposure in some way based on his other business dealings, which we're still learning about after he left the White House, and that in order to limit his exposure, his smart lawyer is trying to get a deal, and that it's basically, has more to do with the exposure that General Flynn has than the exciting quality of what he may have to say."

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/2, Tau, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports that the White House provided two versions of Flynn's 2016 financial disclosure from – one that was filed in February and a second, amended form filed March 31. On the first version, Flynn failed to disclose payments from RT, the Russian television network and media outlet, Volga-Dnepr Group, a Russian air-cargo company, and Kaspersky Government Security Solutions, a US subsidiary of a Russian cybersecurity firm. Flynn acknowledged the fees on the second version. Russian President Putin's Press Secretary, Dmitry Peskov, said on [ABC's This Week](#) (4/2, Raddatz, 6.61M), "We're not" concerned that Flynn is seeking immunity. "Any blamings that Russia could have been interfering in domestic affairs of the United States is slander. And it has no evidence at all." While Flynn was in contact with the Russian ambassador, Peskov warned against the "perverted perception of ambassador's job to say every contact with Russian ambassador is potentially dangerous."

Ignatius: Trump Tweets Have "Morphed" Into Argument About Surveillance. [Breitbart](#) (4/2, Key, 2.02M) reports that Washington Post columnist David Ignatius said on CBS' "Fact the Nation" that Trump's tweets alleging that Trump Tower was wiretapped by the Obama Administration "has morphed into an argument about privacy, about proper masking techniques." Ignatius said, "What's happened this month is that what initially seemed a preposterous argument by Donald Trump that he had been wiretapped by President Obama illegally has morphed into an argument about privacy, about proper masking techniques, a very technical legal issue, and it's now accepted I think as part of the mainstream set of issues that are going to be debated by the two intelligence committees. From Trump's standpoint that's a success."

Haley: No One At UN Talking About Russian Interference In US Election. [Bloomberg](#)

[Politics](#) (4/2, Krasny, 201K) reports that US Ambassador to the UN Haley “says she’s maintaining a hard line against Russia even as her boss – President Donald Trump – continues to dismiss reported Russian involvement in the 2016 U.S. election as ‘fake’ news.” Haley told [ABC’s This Week](#) (4/2, Raddatz, 6.61M), “Certainly I think Russia was involved in the election. ... There’s no question about that.” Haley added that Trump “is letting her chart her own path at the UN.” Said Haley, “He is not stopping me from beating up on Russia.”

Haley said on [CBS’ Face The Nation](#) (4/2, Dickerson, 4.61M) that at the UN, “No one is talking to me about” Russian interference in elections. “We have talked about Russia’s influence in Ukraine, which we’ve been very loud against, talking about Crimea. We’ve also talked about how Russia needs to help move the Iranian influence out of Syria, how we need to be working on getting ISIS out. Those are the things that are being talked about at the United Nations.”

The [AP](#) (4/2, Yen) says Haley “insists President Donald Trump would fully support strong action against the Kremlin once investigations are complete,” and “contended there is no contradiction between her tough stance and Trump’s repeated public statements seeking to minimize Russia’s role.”

E.J. Dionne writes in his [Washington Post](#) (4/2, 11.43M) column says “the drift on the right toward Vladimir Putin” is “jarring” and “remarkable,” given that not long ago, “conservatives were jumping all over President Barack Obama for his Russian ‘reset’ and his first-term eagerness to negotiate with Moscow.” Dionne writes that “any liberal who raises alarms about Trump’s relationship with Russia confronts charges of McCarthyism, hysteria and hypocrisy.” While there is “no doubt that liberals are angry,” he adds, “Shouldn’t everyone, left, right and center, be furious over Russia’s efforts to inject calumny and falsehood into the American political bloodstream?”

PRUITT: HUMANS CONTRIBUTE TO CLIMATE CHANGE. [Politico](#) (4/2, Meyer, 2.46M) reports that EPA Administrator Pruitt, who recently said that carbon emissions are not “a primary contributor” to global warming, said in an interview on [Fox News Sunday](#) that “humans are contributing to climate change.” Pruitt said, “There’s a warming trend, the climate is changing, and human activity contributes to that change in some measure. ... The real issue is how much we contribute to it and measuring that with precision.”

Pruitt: US Has “Nothing To Be Apologetic About” On CO2. Pruitt, on [Fox News Sunday](#) (4/2, Wallace), also said, “We are pre-1994 levels” on CO2, “and do you know why? Largely because of innovation of technology: hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling. Because there’s been a conversion to natural gas in the generation of electricity. What’s important, at least in my view, is the utility companies across the country that are generating electricity, ought not have a regulator in Washington, DC, in this instance the EPA, picking winners and losers, saying to the American people that we will be anti-coal, anti-fossil fuel as we generate electricity. That’s bad for America.” Pruitt said, “We have nothing to be apologetic about with respect to leadership that we’ve shown, as a country, with respect to these key issues.” He added that President Trump has “shown great leadership and pro-growth and pro-jobs but pro-environment, and we can do both.”

PRUITT: PARIS AGREEMENT A “BAD DEAL” FOR US. [Reuters](#) (4/2, Volcovici) reports that Pruitt said that while the US should be “engaged” in international climate change talks, the Paris agreement is a “bad deal” for the country. Pruitt told Fox, “To demonstrate the leadership that we have shown on this issue with China and India and other nations is very important and discussions should ensue...but what Paris represents is a bad deal for this country.”

PRUITT CONDEMNS OBAMA ADMINISTRATION’S “REGULATORY OVERREACH.” EPA Administrator Pruitt, on [Fox News Sunday](#) (4/2, Wallace), condemned “the regulatory overreach, the executive fiat that the previous Administration engaged in” on regulating pollutants. He added, “We can’t continue that process, because what happens...is clean air is not advanced because you have litigation, such as the Clean Power Plan. ... There’s no progress being made for cleaner

and we are also spending money on litigation." Pruitt also [Fox News Sunday](#) (4/2, Wallace) that abandoning the Clean Power Plan "doesn't mean that clean air and clean water is not going to be the focus in the future. We'll do it right within the consistency of the framework that Congress passed." He added, "One of the key priorities of the Administration [is] to improve air quality."

PRUITT REVERSES STEPS TO BAN CHLORPYRIFOS. The [CBS Weekend News](#) (4/2, story 10, 2:20, Ninan) reported that EPA Administrator Pruitt last week "reversed steps to ban a controversial, widely-used pesticide linked to potential health problems in children and farm workers." John Blackstone that farmers say food sprayed with chlorpyrifos, which is "used on more than 50 crops from strawberries to corn in tens of thousands of American farms" is "safe to eat," but "studies from Columbia and UC Berkeley showed that exposure through the air led to 'long term potentially irreversible changes in children' and 'is related to lower intelligence scores.'" Former President Obama's EPA "endorsed a complete ban" in 2015, but Pruitt said, in a statement, "By reversing the previous Administration's steps to ban one of the most widely used pesticides in the world, we are returning to using sound science in decision making."

WHITE HOUSE: OFFICIALS' WEALTH SHOWS PERSONAL SACRIFICE INVOLVED IN TAKING ROLES. The [Washington Times](#) (4/2, Boyer, 272K) reports financial disclosure forms released by the Administration shows that "many of President Trump's senior advisers amassed millions in successful careers before joining the White House." The White House, according to the Times, "said the wealth of some of Mr. Trump's aides demonstrates their personal sacrifice in coming to work for the administration." White House press secretary Sean Spicer said, "The president has brought a lot of people into this administration, into this White House, in particular, who have been very blessed and very successful by this country and have given up a lot to come into the government by setting aside a lot of assets."

The [New York Times](#) (4/2, Eder, Lipton, Lehren, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) says the disclosures "offer a hint of how an explosion in spending has expanded the lucrative array of private political work in Washington, enriching even the anti-establishment activists and operatives who sided with Mr. Trump." The Times adds the "figures reveal the extent to which private political work has bolstered the financial fortunes of Trump aides."

Author: Trump Showing That Business Success Does Not Always Transfer To Other Areas. In a [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/2, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) op-ed, author Joseph Epstein says that President Trump's initial days in office shows there is a strong argument that success in business does not automatically transfer to other areas. Epstein hopes that Trump feels humble enough to reconsider his approach.

CONFERENCE ATTENDEES: TRUMP'S POLICIES WILL LEAD TO MORE MERGERS. The [New York Times](#) (4/2, De La Merced, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that attendees at the Corporate Law Institute in New Orleans last week were optimistic that President Trump and his support for lower taxes and reduced regulations mean "deal making should boom" and more mergers are likely. The Times adds that the feeling is "lower taxes and less regulation...should contribute to strong stock prices," which would lead to companies being "more likely to strike big deals."

CENTRAL BANKS, ECONOMISTS CONSIDERING WHETHER STRICT INFLATION RATE IS GOOD POLICY. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/2, Harrison, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports that inflation has reached the Federal Reserve's goal of two percent, but economists and central bankers are beginning to feel that a strict goal is a mistake. The Journal adds that after a period of very low inflation and interest rates, central banks are considering whether inflation should be allowed to increase above two percent.

FORMER FEMALE AIDE: WORKING FOR PENCE DID "NOTHING BUT GREAT THINGS FOR MY CAREER." In the [National Review](#) (4/2, 696K), Ericka Anderson cites a [Washington Post](#) column by Mary Vought, who described her experiences "working for our former boss" Vice

President Pence when he was House Republican Conference chairman. Anderson says she "wasn't sure what all the fuss was about" regarding Pence's statement last week that he did not dine alone with female staffers. Vought says that Vought felt "being a woman didn't hold her back at all while working for Pence – and I can confidently say the same." Anderson adds that Pence "never treated me with anything but respect and I found him to be a warm, genuine man who truly valued his staff and more importantly, his family." Anderson continues that she is "glad I got the opportunity to work for Mike Pence" as "it's done nothing but great things for my career."

FEDERAL JUDGE REJECTS MOVE TO DISMISS SUIT ALLEGING TRUMP ENCOURAGED VIOLENCE AT A RALLY. [Politico](#) (4/2, Samuelsohn, 2.46M) reports that on Friday, US District Court Judge David Hale refused to dismiss a case by three people who attended a Trump for President rally in March 2016 in Louisville, Kentucky and sued President Trump, accusing him of encouraging violence and claiming they were "shoved and punched by Trump supporters" after Trump said to the crowd, "Get 'em out of here." Trump's attorney has argued that the Constitution's first amendment protects Trump's speech against such suits. Hale has ruled the suit should go before a federal magistrate to begin "preliminary litigation steps, discovery and to attempt to bring the parties together for settlement talks."

TINA FEY BLAMES WHITE COLLEGE-EDUCATED WOMEN FOR ELECTING TRUMP. [USA Today](#) (4/2, Mallenbaum, 5.28M) reports comedian Tina Fey, speaking at an American Civil Liberties Union fundraiser about the election of President Trump, said, "The thing that I keep I keep focusing on is the idea that we sort of need to hold the edges, that it's sort of like a lot of this election was turned by kinda white college-educated women who would now maybe like to forget about this election and go back to watching HGTV." She added, "I would want to urge them to like, 'You can't look away, because it doesn't affect you this minute, but it's going to affect you eventually'."

Survey Finds Large Portion Of Progressive Activists Are Women Over 45. [Axios](#) (4/2, Savitsky) reports on a Lake Research Polling survey finding that "a huge proportion of the progressive activists opposing President Donald Trump are middle-aged women." The poll, according to the firm, reflects the "most active users" of Daily Action, described as "a tool that suggests a civic-minded task via text message each day." Of those surveyed, 86 percent were women, and 66 percent were over 45.

BUSH ADMINISTRATION EFFORTS TO UNCOVER AND PROSECUTE VOTER FRAUD TURNED UP LITTLE. [Politico Magazine](#) (4/2, Rab) reports in an over 5,000-word story on efforts by former US Attorney General John Ashcroft starting in 2002 to combat voter fraud. During the Bush Administration, US Attorneys conducted "more than 300 investigations" leading to 119 people being charged "with election crimes" and 86 convicted. Most were single votes or errors in registrations. Now, as President Trump has promised a new investigation, "experts say...voter rolls are cleaner...voting systems have been updated...and stricter voter ID laws are in force." It describes in some detail investigations in New Mexico and Washington State that failed to disclose conspiracies, but only found a few irregularities. The article concludes with a quote from William Welch, former chief of the public integrity section of the Justice Department's criminal division, who was asked after all these investigations about voting by non-citizens and said, "It simply is an unquantifiable figure as far as we're concerned."

BLACK LIVES MATTER TURNS ATTENTION TO STATE GOVERNMENTS. The [AP](#) (4/2, Whack) reports on "a new initiative" from Black Lives Matter to "re-focus the movement's efforts on state capitols." The website OurStates.org shows the group turning its "attention to statehouses." The group is urging its supporters to back legislation "requiring police departments to report data on hate crimes, requiring officers to undergo bias training and preventing police unions from making it harder to investigate officer misconduct." One Republican consultant advised supporters that activists, to be successful, must "be serious and have doable, incremental goals."

FERGUSON, MISSOURI HOLDS MAYORAL ELECTION. [NBC Nightly News](#) (4/2, story 7, 2:35, Snow, 16.61M) reported that Ferguson, Missouri, "the city that became synonymous with racially biased policing and protest" is holding its mayoral election "between an incumbent and a challenger who disagree about how much progress Ferguson has made." Mayor James Knowles is asking voters to give Ferguson "steady leadership moving forward," while City Council Member Ella Jones suggests it is "time to turn the page" as the city already has a "new city manager, police chief and chief judge."

FUHRMAN TO SEEK REMATCH WITH ROS-LEHTINEN. [Politico](#) (4/2, Bustos, 2.46M) reports Scott Fuhrman (D) said that he intends to seek a rematch with Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R) in 2018, having lost to her in 2016. Fuhrman, 35, said he would file his candidacy on Monday. Fuhrman is resigning his post as CEO of Florida Bottling Co., in order to campaign full time, but will continue as a member of the Board of Directors of the company. He intends to run for 18 months instead of the five months he campaigned in 2016. The district is being targeted by the DCCC. The district voted 53-46 percent for former President Barack Obama over Mitt Romney in 2012, while Hillary Clinton won the district 59-39 percent over President Trump in 2016. Democrats also have a registration advantage with 142,777 to 131,195 Republicans, and 118,000 unaffiliated voters.

ALABAMA LAWMAKERS TO RECEIVE RESULTS OF INVESTIGATIONS OF GOVERNOR. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/2, Campo-Flores, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports two investigations are expected to be completed and delivered to the Alabama legislature this week in the matter of an alleged affair between Gov. Robert Bentley and his former chief adviser. The results are expected to help the legislature determine whether to go forward with impeachment and possible removal of the governor. The adviser has resigned and Bentley has publicly apologized, though both denied having an actual affair. Bentley's attorney, Ross Garber, has argued that in the past impeachment has been reserved for particularly serious crimes.

LEGAL TEAM FOR TURKISH GOLD TRADER IN IRAN SANCTIONS CASE BYPASSES PROSECUTORS IN DEAL TALKS. The [New York Times](#) (4/2, Weiser, Rashbaum, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that Reza Zarrab, a Turkish gold trader who is charged with conspiring to violate US sanctions on Iran, "has been described by prosecutors as having considerable wealth and political influence," and even Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan "has weighed in, criticizing the prosecution." Former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani and former Attorney General Michael Mukasey "were retained by" Zarrab "to try to negotiate a resolution to the charges, but in an unusual departure from the way almost all criminal cases are conducted, the talks have not been with" the Manhattan US Attorney's office, which is prosecuting Zarrab. Giuliani and Mukasey "have sought to meet with Trump administration officials...to discuss a potential resolution of the case, according to new court filings on Friday," and they have also traveled to Turkey to meet with Erdogan, "a trip that Attorney General Jeff Sessions was told about, the new filings indicate."

WHITE OKLAHOMA OFFICER EXPLAINS WHY SHE FATALLY SHOT UNARMED BLACK MAN. The [Washington Post](#) (4/2, Phillips, 11.43M) reports that "a white Oklahoma police officer charged with first-degree manslaughter said her decision to shoot an unarmed black man was not motivated by race." Terence Crutcher "died because the 40-year-old was not following her orders, and she shot him because she believed he was about to reach for a weapon, Officer Betty Shelby told CBS's Bill Whitaker on '60 Minutes' in an interview scheduled to air Sunday. 'What I based everything on was his actions, his behaviors,' Shelby said. 'Race had nothing to do with my decision-making.'" Prosecutors say Shelby, "a five-year veteran with the Tulsa Police Department, 'overreacted' when she shot Crutcher, a father of four." The Post notes that the September 16 traffic stop was recorded on video, "and the death fueled protests over racial injustice." Shelby "is one of only a few female officers to be charged in a fatal shooting in the past decade," the Post notes.

CAMDEN, NJ TRIES NEW APPROACHES TO FIGHTING CRIME. The [New York Times](#) (4/2,

Goldstein, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that "every few months," Camden, NJ Police Chief J. Scott Thomson "asks which officers wrote the most tickets." As the Times notes, "elsewhere, this might lead to praise, but in Camden – where 40 percent of residents live below the poverty line, the murder rate compares to that of El Salvador and one of the most interesting experiments in American policing is underway," Thomson "sees aggressive ticket writing as a sign that his officers don't get the new program. 'Handing a \$250 ticket to someone who is making \$13,000 a year...can be life altering,' Chief Thomson said in an interview last year." The Times notes that "handling more vehicle stops with a warning, rather than a ticket, is one element of Chief Thomson's new approach, which, for lack of another name, might be called the Hippocratic ethos of policing: Minimize harm, and try to save lives."

WSJOURNAL ANALYSIS: OIL COMPANIES STRIVE TO BREAK EVEN. A [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/2, Kent, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) analysis shows that Exxon Mobil Corp., Royal Dutch Shell PLC, Chevron Corp., and BP PLC ended 2016 with more debt than they began it, in spite of billions of dollars in spending cuts and a modest rebound in the price of oil. While Chevron, Shell, and Exxon aim to break even at \$50 a barrel, BP says it needs \$60 a barrel to balance revenue and spending in 2017. According to Exxon's own metrics, the company broke even in the fourth quarter, excluding dividend payouts. The Journal says the companies have taken on debt and sold assets to prioritize shareholders. BP Chevron Chief Executive John Watson told analysts in January that the company would break even on moderate prices, and Shell Chief Executive Ben van Beurden told the CERAWEEK conference in Houston last month that the company foresaw having cash flow twice as high as when barrels sold for \$90.

WSJOURNAL A1: COMPANIES WORK TO FIGHT 401(K) LEAKAGE. According to the [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/2, Tergesen, Subscription Publication, 6.37M), American firms are moving to stop employees from withdrawing funds from their 401(k)s in order to ensure older workers are able to retire and leave positions open for younger hires. Boston College Center for Retirement Research economists say leakage of retirement funds could undermine the wealth in US retirement accounts by around 25 percent when the lost yearly savings are compounded over 30 years. Home Depot's efforts to fight the phenomenon include showing would-be 401(k) borrowers how much their retirement savings would be depleted by the loan. Recordkeepers and economists say that up to 40 percent of people leaving jobs choose to cash out their retirement accounts, incurring tax duties and penalties, instead of leaving the money or transferring it to a different retirement plan.

NEW YORK LAWMAKERS, CUOMO LACK BUDGET DEAL TWO DAYS AFTER DEADLINE. The [New York Times](#) (4/2, McKinley, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo's hope that the extra time afforded by this weekend would result in a budget "had not yet blossomed" Sunday night, two days past the start of the 2017-2018 fiscal year. The Times says lawmakers seemed to be "at odds over a rotating roster of issues," such as raising the age of criminal responsibility, renewing tax cuts for developers, supporting charter schools, changing the workers' compensation system, and education aid. While those issues were said to be nearing final deals, no legislation has resulted. Lawmakers echoed the sentiment that there was much discussion of important issues without resolution, and the question of criminal responsibility "was consistently mentioned as the knottiest." Cuomo's Friday ultimatum for an emergency "extender" would freeze spending and stop legislators being paid.

BOARD ELECTION, LAWSUIT THREATEN CHICAGO SUBURB'S TRANSGENDER STUDENT POLICY. The [New York Times](#) (4/2, Hartocollis, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports the school board election set for Tuesday in the Township High School District 211, which serves a Chicago Suburb, and a lawsuit by Arizona-based conservative Christian advocacy group Alliance Defending Freedom will play a defining role in the future of the district's policy on accommodating transgender students. Currently there is an agreement between the district and the federal government that allows Student A, a high school senior who is transgender, to use a curtained area in the girls' locker room, but it is set to expire when she graduates, and three "insurgent" candidates in the school board race oppose the agreement. Alliance Defending

Freedom's federal lawsuit argues the policy toward Student A violates students' right to privacy, and one parent who opposes the agreement said does not align with a "wholesome lifestyle."

FACEBOOK, HP PRESS OUTSIDE LEGAL TEAMS TO BECOME MORE DIVERSE. The [New York Times](#) (4/2, Rosen, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports Facebook implemented Saturday a policy that requires that women and ethnic minorities account for 33 percent of the outside legal teams it works with, and law firms must also demonstrate that they "actively identify and create clear and measurable leadership opportunities for women and minorities." Facebook General Counsel Colin Stretch said in an interview that he thinks the legal firms are "ready" for the mandate. HP similarly adopted in February a more stringent program pressing their outside legal consultants to make their teams more diverse that entails a 10 percent "diversity holdback" of fees if a team does not have a woman or ethnic minority performing 10 percent of the billable hours. HP General Counsel Kim Rivera said that because "the lack of diversity is a stubborn and persistent problem," the company decided the best approach was to "be clear and unambiguous and hold firms financially accountable."

USA TODAY REVIEW: BIN LADEN RAID ARCHITECT PUBLISHES "POWERFUL BOOK." [USA Today](#) (4/2, Jervis, 5.28M) reports former SEAL and retired Admiral William McRaven, the architect of the 2011 raid that led to the death of Osama bin Laden, is set to publish on Tuesday "Make your Bed: Little Things That Can Change Your Life...And Maybe the World," a "thin, powerful book" based on the 2014 commencement address he gave at the University of Texas-Austin that "went viral." Based on "a wide-ranging interview" with McRaven, USA Today says the book was motivated by the current state of intelligence and President Trump's travel ban. Asked about the ban, McRaven said that while he is "a big supporter of immigrants in this country," he recognizes "the need for us to remain vigilant." McRaven said that if a person learns to do little things well, such as making one's bed each morning, that "transcends into a lot of other things you do." The book also covers SEAL training and overseeing Saddam Hussein's detainment.

SAMUELSON: AMERICAN DREAM "OBSESSION" CAUSING HIGHER MIDDLE-AGED WHITE MORTALITY RATES. In a column for the [Washington Post](#) (4/2, 11.43M), Robert Samuelson proposes an additional explanation to accompany the "tentative theory" of "cumulative deprivation" that Princeton University economists Anne Case and Angus Deaton put forth to explain the findings of their recent study that non-Hispanic middle-aged whites were dying more often and at a younger age. Case and Deaton suggested that a "steady deterioration in job opportunities for people with low education" leads to fewer marriages, and therefore "more men lose regular contact with their children, which is bad for them, and bad for the children." Samuelson says the study raises questions "usually left to literature," and he proposes that the American Dream "is killing us" because when it becomes "unattainable," it is "a judgment on our lives." The population's "obsession" with the American Dream "measures our ambition – and our anger."

HOOVER FELLOW WEIGHS IN ON LAWSUIT ALLEGING YALE CURBING FREEDOM OF SPEECH. In an op-ed for the [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/2, Subscription Publication, 6.37M), Hoover Institution Senior Fellow Peter Berkowitz writes if the plaintiff of a lawsuit involving the mishandling of sexual-assault allegations is right, Yale University has further reduced its students' right to the freedom of speech. In *Doe v. Yale*, Doe argues that the University inaccurately found him guilty of rape because the woman expressly consented, but biased officials presumed his guilt and discriminated against him based on sex, not accepting his account that the woman harassed him. A Yale spokeswoman denied the suit's claims. Previously, the plaintiff had been reprimanded for writing a philosophy paper condemning rape as irrational based on Socrates' account in Plato's "Republic" of the tripartite soul. The Journal says no female student would have been punished for using philosophical reasoning to condemn rape.

SULLIVAN: INTERNATIONAL FACT-CHECKING DAY A "GLOBAL COUNTERPUNCH ON BEHALF OF TRUTH." In her column for the [Washington Post](#) (4/2, 11.43M), Margaret Sullivan writes that the first International Fact-Checking Day, which was Sunday, April 2, constitutes "a

global counterpunch on behalf of truth," given that "we're all chumps sometimes" due to "the proliferation of hoaxes, conspiracy theories, doctored photos and lies that look like news." American Press Institute Senior Manager Jane Elizabeth said the effort is intended to help the public do similar fact-checking to journalists. Sullivan says there is a trivia quiz, a fact-checking lesson plan available in 12 languages, and six "how-to" guides from "fact-checking pros." Some tips include researching the source, checking the social media footprint, looking beyond the headline, checking the comments, and taking everything with a grain of salt.

WSJOURNAL: SCHOOL CHOICE OPPONENTS RELY ON FEW, FAULTY STUDIES. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/2, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) editorializes that the studies on school choice voucher programs that use the most reliable methodologies have found the programs result in student growth. A Friedman Foundation meta-analysis last year found that 14 empirical studies saw positive academic outcomes, where only two saw no visible effect from voucher programs, and two found negative effects. The Journal says liberals who oppose teacher evaluations based on student outcomes rely on the few studies that show negative effects and say the funding public schools lose when students use vouchers to attend other options results in an even worse outcome for those left at the public institutions.

WPOST CONDEMNS HOGAN'S "POLITICAL FLEXIBILITY" RESULTING IN FRACKING BAN. The [Washington Post](#) (4/2, 11.43M) editorializes that Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan's "political flexibility continues to impress," saying the strict limits he imposed on fracking position him "to the left of his liberal predecessor, Martin O'Malley." Despite campaign-trail claims that fracking opportunities in the state were "an economic gold mine," the Post says Hogan "suddenly changed his tune last month" when he said that "the possible environmental risks of fracking simply outweigh any potential benefits," a move that paved the way for a fracking ban in the state legislature. While an "unexpected victory" for environmental activists, the Post says the ban was merely a "mild defeat" for Western Maryland. Nonetheless, Maryland joins "a small group of states that has surrendered to anti-fracking activists who deny the reality that fracking can be performed safely." This counteracts efforts to move away from coal on the way to cleaner alternative energy sources.

Editorial Wrap-Up:

NEW YORK TIMES. "A Cornerstone Of Peace At Risk." A [New York Times](#) (4/3, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) editorial warns that "one of the big security decisions facing the Trump administration in the next few months is what to do about Russia's violation" of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF), and how it "reacts will say a lot about how it views the threat from Russia." The Times cautions that a US decision to withdraw from the treaty "would be disastrous."

"Michigan Is Forced To Do Right By Flint, Finally." In an editorial, the [New York Times](#) (4/3, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) says that "after shirking its responsibility for years, Michigan has agreed to resolve an environmental crisis it created in Flint, by replacing thousands of lead pipes that have poisoned the city's water. That's good news, but it's shameful that it took a lawsuit to make it happen."

"Closing Rikers Without A Road Map." A [New York Times](#) (4/3, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) editorial says Mayor Bill de Blasio "is suddenly on the side of closing Rikers Island," but during a press conference on Friday afternoon he "had nothing to say" on "the difficult job of finding someplace to put the inmates." The Times argues that the "credit for a real Rikers road map must go instead to the state's former chief judge, Jonathan Lippman, who has spent the last year heading a commission to examine the city's criminal justice system."

WASHINGTON POST. "At The Barricades In Belarus." In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (4/2, 11.43M) writes Belarusian leader Alexander Lukashenko has adopted a "tactical balancing act" of simultaneously appealing to Russian President Vladimir Putin and the European Union,

enabling him to “remain in power for more than two decades.” The current state of that balancing act is “precarious,” however, because of Lukashenko’s recent actions. Last month, Lukashenko and his security services responded to protesters “with hundreds of arrests, the most serious crackdown in seven years.” The security services also arrested hundreds “of opposition politicians, activists, bloggers and journalists.” The EU lifted sanctions on Belarus last year, but Lukashenko’s widespread crackdown threatens any gains Lukashenko has made with the bloc. The crackdown also underscores Lukashenko’s “long record of intolerance of democracy and dissent.” The Post writes, “As long as he rules, Belarus will be locked in a kind of dead zone,” but the public’s response indicates “that society is tired of this prison and won’t be silenced.”

“Tweaking A ‘Disaster.’” A [Washington Post](#) (4/2, 11.43M) editorial says that while President Trump “campaign hard” against NAFTA and said he would “serve notice of American intent to exit the deal” if Canada and Mexico did not agree to renegotiate, “his administration has revealed its draft NAFTA agenda,” and “it would appear that Mr. Trump’s bark had little relationship to his bite.” The Post argues that while Trump’s “protectionism during the campaign was so over the top that any moderation now that he’s in power is a relief,” the “damage from his rhetoric won’t be easily undone.”

“Mr. Hogan’s Flexibility.” The [Washington Post](#) (4/2, 11.43M) editorializes that Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan’s “political flexibility continues to impress,” saying the strict limits he imposed on fracking position him “to the left of his liberal predecessor, Martin O’Malley.” Despite campaign-trail claims that fracking opportunities in the state were “an economic gold mine,” the Post says Hogan “suddenly changed his tune last month” when he said that “the possible environmental risks of fracking simply outweigh any potential benefits,” a move that paved the way for a fracking ban in the state legislature. While an “unexpected victory” for environmental activists, the Post says the ban was merely a “mild defeat” for Western Maryland. Nonetheless, Maryland joins “a small group of states that has surrendered to anti-fracking activists who deny the reality that fracking can be performed safely.” This counteracts efforts to move away from coal on the way to cleaner alternative energy sources.

WALL STREET JOURNAL. “The Truth About The China Trade Shock.” In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/2, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) writes that when President Trump meets with Chinese President Xi Jinping this week at Mar-a-Lago, intellectual property, cyber theft, and favoritism to “national champions” should be on the agenda, not China’s trade practices. Saying the methodology of a frequently-cited study that says rising imports from China resulted in job loss in the US is flawed, the Journal points to two other studies, one by a Gallup economist and another by a Columbia PhD student, whose authors claim that in fact trade with China has reduced costs, and boosted manufacturing employment. The Gallup study found that trade with China since it entered the WTO has not hurt US manufacturing jobs more than domestic factors, and the Columbia work showed that the losses due to trade with China often “created more manufacturing and nonmanufacturing jobs” at US firms.

“North Korean Killers Go Free.” In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/2, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) criticizes Malaysia’s release of three North Korean suspects in the killing of Kim Jong Nam, half-brother of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, in exchange for the release of nine Malaysians held in Pyongyang. The Journal says the deal means the North Koreans who allegedly planned the killing will never be held accountable.

“School Choice Deniers.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (4/2, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) editorializes that the studies on school choice voucher programs that use the most reliable methodologies have found the programs result in student growth. A Friedman Foundation meta-analysis last year found that 14 empirical studies saw positive academic outcomes, where only two saw no visible effect from voucher programs, and two found negative effects. The Journal says liberals who oppose teacher evaluations based on student outcomes rely on the few studies that show negative effects and say the funding public schools lose when students use vouchers to attend other options results in an even worse outcome for those left at the public institutions.

The Big Picture:

HEADLINES FROM TODAY'S FRONT PAGES.

Wall Street Journal:

[Red State Democratic Senators Face Tough Choice On Gorsuch](#)
[The Rising Retirement Perils Of 401\(k\) "Leakage"](#)
[Rethinking The Widely Held 2% Inflation Target](#)
[Syria's Civil War Produces A Clear Winner: Hezbollah](#)

New York Times:

[China Learns How To Get Trump's Ear: Through Jared Kushner](#)
[Trump Aides' Disclosures Reveal Surge In Lucrative Political Work](#)
[Interactive Feature: How Uber Uses Psychological Tricks To Push Its Drivers' Buttons](#)
[A Hushed Departure At The Met Museum Reveals Entrenched Management Culture](#)
[Mexico Ready To Play The Corn Card In Trade Talks](#)
[2 Survivors Of Canada's First Quintuplet Clan Reluctantly Re-Emerge](#)
[South Carolina Defeats Mississippi State To Win Women's Title](#)

Washington Post:

[Okla. Town Waits For The Ax](#)
[Major DEA Opioid Case Falters On Uncertain Legal Ground](#)
[A Final Senate Clash For Gorsuch](#)
[Tweets For "Missing" Backfire In District](#)
[A Journey Into Syria's Torture Wards](#)

Financial Times:

[Trump Ready To Tackle North Korea Alone — FT Exclusive](#)
[China Targets "Financial Ants" Smuggling Cash To HK](#)
[Gibraltar Tensions Bubble Over Into British War Talk](#)

Washington Times:

[With ISIS In Crosshairs, Al Qaeda Makes Comeback](#)
[Democrats' Various "Reasons" Look To Republicans Like Excuses To Oppose Gorsuch For Supreme Court](#)
[Border Patrol Union Urges Trump To Cut Obama's Red Tape Holding Back Agents](#)
[Coal Miners Vow 30 Days Of Pressure On Congress To Act On Health Care, Pension Guarantees](#)
[American Once Held In Egyptian Prison Sees Opportunity For Trump In El-Sissi Meeting](#)
[Ecuadoreans Elect President Who Will Allow Assange To Stay At Embassy In London](#)

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Severe Weather; Weather Forecast; Colombia-Flash Flood; Hotel Pool Poisoning; Dubai-Building Fire; Trump-Healthcare Reform; Supreme Court Nomination; Trump-East Asia Diplomacy; North Korea-Nuclear Ambition; Facebook Live-Sexual Assault; Drone-Emergency Response; Boston-Car Theft; Ford-Truck Recall; Paris-Festival Accidental Explosion; Maryland-Traffic Accident; Inside F-16 Fighter Jet.

CBS: Severe Weather; Colombia-Flash Flood; Supreme Court Nomination; Russia Hacking Investigation; Flynn Immunity; Supreme Court Nomination-Expert Comment; Facebook Live-Sexual Assault; Hotel Pool Poisoning; Buzz Aldrin-Flight; Brexit Process Begins; EPA-Pesticide Roll-Back; Egyptian Artifact; MLB-2017 First Pitch; Baseball-Hall Of Fame Pictures.

NBC: Facebook Live-Sexual Assault; Severe Weather; Colombia-Flash Flood; Supreme Court Nomination; North Korea-Nuclear Ambition; Undocumented Asian-American Immigrants; Ferguson, MI-Mayor Election; UK-Domestic Surveillance History; Bicycle Donations.

Network TV At A Glance:

Weather – 6 minutes, 40 seconds
Colombia-Flash Flood – 5 minutes, 50 seconds
Facebook Live-Sexual Assault – 4 minutes, 45 seconds
North Korea-Nuclear Ambition – 4 minutes
Supreme Court Nomination – 3 minutes, 45 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: Trump-East Asia Diplomacy; Severe Weather; Dominican Republic-Earthquake; Facebook Live-Sexual Assault; Women's College Basketball.

CBS: Severe Weather; Colombia-Flash Flood; Kushner-Middle East Visit; Supreme Court Nomination; Flynn Seeks Immunity.

FOX: Severe Weather; Colombia-Flash Flood; Trump-East Asia Diplomacy; Russia-Hacking.

NPR: Supreme Court Nomination; Severe Weather; Facebook Live-Sexual Assault; Colombia-Flash Flood; Trump-East Asia Diplomacy.

Last Laughs:

LATE NIGHT POLITICAL HUMOR.

No late-night talk show aired on Sunday night.

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Sender:	Bulletin Intelligence <HHS@BulletinIntelligence.com>
Recipient:	<HHS@bulletinintelligence.com>
Sent Date:	2017/04/03 07:32:57
Delivered Date:	2017/04/03 07:35:13

From:	<postmaster@nafeo.org>
To:	<presidentsoffice@nafeo.org>
Subject:	Undeliverable: A Message from the HHS Office on Women's Health for National Campus Safety Awareness Month
Date:	2017/09/28 14:46:24
Priority:	Normal
Type:	REPORT.IPM.Note.NDR



Your message to presidentsoffice@nafeo.org couldn't be delivered.

[presidentsoffice](#) wasn't found at nafeo.org.

Valerie.Borde **Office 365** **presidentsoff**
ice
Action Recipient
Required



Unknown To
address

How to Fix It

The address may be misspelled or may not exist. Try one or more of the following:

- • Send the message again following these steps: In Outlook, open this non-delivery report (NDR) and choose **Send Again** from the Report ribbon. In Outlook on the web, select this NDR, then select the link "**To send this message again, click here.**" Then delete and retype the entire recipient address. If prompted with an Auto-Complete List suggestion don't select it. After typing the complete address, click **Send**.
- • Contact the recipient (by phone, for example) to check that the address exists and is correct.
- • The recipient may have set up email forwarding to an incorrect address. Ask them to check that any forwarding they've set up is working correctly.
- • Clear the recipient Auto-Complete List in Outlook or Outlook on the web by following the steps in this article: [Fix email delivery issues for error code 5.1.10 in Office 365](#), and then send the message again. Retype the entire recipient address before selecting **Send**.

If the problem continues, forward this message to your email admin. If you're an email admin, refer to the **More Info for Email Admins** section below.

Was this helpful? [Send feedback to Microsoft.](#)

More Info for Email Admins

Status code: 550 5.1.10

This error occurs because the sender sent a message to an email address hosted by Office 365 but the address is incorrect or doesn't exist at the destination domain. The error is reported by the recipient domain's email server, but most often it must be fixed by the person who sent the message. If the steps in the **How to Fix It** section above don't fix the problem, and you're the email admin for the recipient, try one or more of the following:

The email address exists and is correct - Confirm that the recipient address exists, is correct, and is accepting messages.

Synchronize your directories - If you have a hybrid environment and are using directory synchronization make sure the recipient's email address is synced correctly in both Office 365 and in your on-premises directory.

Errant forwarding rule - Check for forwarding rules that aren't behaving as expected. Forwarding can be set up by an admin via mail flow rules or mailbox forwarding address settings, or by the recipient via the Inbox Rules feature.

Recipient has a valid license - Make sure the recipient has an Office 365 license assigned to them. The recipient's email admin can use the Office 365 admin center to assign a license (Users > Active Users > select the recipient > Assigned License > Edit).

Mail flow settings and MX records are not correct - Misconfigured mail flow or MX record settings can cause this error. Check your Office 365 mail flow settings to make sure your domain and any mail flow connectors are set up correctly. Also, work with your domain registrar to make sure the MX records for your domain are configured correctly.

For more information and additional tips to fix this issue, see [Fix email delivery issues for error code 5.1.10 in Office 365](#).

Original Message Details

Created Date:	9/28/2017 6:45:50 PM
Sender Address:	Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov
Recipient Address:	presidentsoffice@nafeo.org
Subject:	A Message from the HHS Office on Women's Health for National Campus Safety Awareness Month

Error Details

Reported error:	550 5.1.10 RESOLVER.ADR.RecipientNotFound; Recipient not found by SMTP address lookup
DSN generated by:	SN1PR19MB0333.namprd19.prod.outlook.com

Message Hops

HO P	TIME (UTC)	FROM	TO	WITH
1	9/28/2017 6:45:50 PM	DM5PR09MB1321.namprd09.prod.outlook.com	DM5PR09MB1321.namprd09.prod.outlook.com	mapi
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9	9/28/2017 6:45:54 PM	DM3PR19CA0021.namprd19.prod.outlook.com	SN1PR19MB0333.namprd19.prod.outlook.com	Microsoft SMTP cipher=TLS_EC)

Original Message Headers

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15.20.0077.016; Thu, 28 Sep 2017 18:45:50 +0000
 From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
 Subject: A Message from the HHS Office on Women's Health for National Campus Safety Awareness Month
 Thread-Topic: A Message from the HHS Office on Women's Health for National Campus Safety Awareness Month
 Thread-Index: AdM4ifci0Rf+iAmrSAebFzz0DuUBGA==
 Date: Thu, 28 Sep 2017 18:45:50 +0000
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 X-MS-TNEF-Correlator:
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Sender:	<postmaster@nafe0.org>
Recipient:	<presidentsoffice@nafe0.org>

Sent Date:	2017/09/28 14:45:55
Delivered Date:	2017/09/28 14:46:24
From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject:	A Message from the HHS Office on Women's Health for National Campus Safety Awareness Month
Date:	2017/09/28 14:45:54
Type:	Note

Dear Colleague,

In July 2016, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health (OWH) awarded nine cooperative agreements to organizations partnering with colleges and universities to prevent sexual assault on their campuses. We are proud of the advances our partners have made through the [College Sexual Assault Policy and Prevention Initiative](#) to improve sexual assault awareness and implement prevention strategies on post-secondary school campuses across the country.

September is National Campus Safety Awareness Month (NCSAM) and we are committed to supporting safe campuses. In observance of NCSAM, OWH is asking you to encourage the colleges and universities you represent to take the following steps toward sexual assault prevention:

- Send a strong public message of support by actively participating in NCSAM 2017 through social media, using #NCSAM2017 when you [post resources](#) for your campus community
- Reach out to campus and community partners to build relationships that foster a coordinated response effort when a sexual assault does occur
- Conduct a campus climate survey and make the aggregated results publicly available
- Create a comprehensive prevention education strategy for all students, with an emphasis on bystander intervention and engaging men, and host an event on campus
- Review and update your campus sexual misconduct policy to ensure that it is fair and includes a clear process for investigation and adjudication, and post it to the school's website
- Ensure that information on reporting sexual misconduct is clear and relevant campus and community resources are accessible to students
- Create a dedicated webpage that contains contact information for your Title IX coordinator, Sexual Assault Response Team, health center, campus safety office, and on-and off- campus advocates and counselors

If you need more information, check out the resources available:

- Share our fact sheet on the health impacts of sexual assault at <https://www.womenshealth.gov/a-z-topics/sexual-assault>
- Attend a NCSAM 2017 webinar hosted by the Clery Center to learn more about steps to improve campus safety <http://ncsam.clerycenter.org/webinars/>

- Visit the online Center for Changing Our Campus Culture and visit their resources page to find research-based tools and strategies for changing the culture on campus
<http://changingourcampus.org/>
- Share the HHS Office on Women's Health blog, [*Sexual Assault on Campus: What We Can Do.*](#)

Currently, 1 in 5 undergraduate college women experience sexual assault while enrolled in a post-secondary institution. I'm sure this is not what these women expected to experience while in college. There is more work to be done to address this issue. Let's band together to create and sustain a safe campus for all students.

Sincerely,

Valerie Borden

On Behalf of,
Nicole Greene

Acting Director
Deputy Director



OWH_logo_150

Office on Women's Health
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201
E-mail: Nicole.Greene@hhs.gov
Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-2614
Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#)

Sender:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Sent Date:	2017/09/28 14:45:50
Delivered Date:	2017/09/28 14:45:54

From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
To:	Armine M. Kourouyan <akourouy@usc.edu>; Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
CC:	Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c4fdb2a19ad4755a5a8932dbf993ff4-Smith, Apri>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Subject:	RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style
Date:	2017/03/23 16:53:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Armine and Kate,

I met with the SG's staff today (6 of them!). I learned that four will be attending the event.

I also learned more about his preferred style so want to make some modifications to the event schedule (see below). He considers a fireside chat to be just him and one other person. The SGs staff are running this run of show by him for his approval.

Run of Show:

6:30 – Arrive – cheese and crackers (Board meeting goes till 7:00)

7:00 - Opening remarks by HH&S and OWH

7:10-7:30 – Dr. Zoanne Clack moderates discussion with SG

7:30-7:45 – Dr. Clack and SG engages in discussion with Cortney Lovell

7:45-7:55 – Show video clips from 2-3 shows – Greys Anatomy, Mom, Private Practice (ALL LEAVE THE STAGE HERE)

7:55 – Gemma Baker speaking with Dr. Clack about how she has been successful with covering this topic in her show

8:10-8:30 – Q&A (SG AND OTHERS RETURN TO THE STAGE FOR FINAL Q&A)

8:30 – Reception (the SG probably will not stay for this)

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [mailto:akourouy@usc.edu]
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 12:36 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Ok thanks for letting us know. Yes we'll definitely add Cortney for the next mailing going out next week.

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center
8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 8:33 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Armine and Kate,

We heard back from Dr. Downey and she is not able to participate or attend the event. Is it possible to add Cortney to the promotional materials? She is the only panelist not listed.

Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 5:44 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Valerie,
Cortney Lovell sounds great for that role. Just keep us posted on Dr. Downey. We will definitely set up call with all the panelists as we get closer, likely in early April.

We are brainstorming a title and will create the invite to send out soon. We typically get around 50-75 people in attendance.

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center
8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 7:25 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>

Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Armine,

Great news on securing a venue.

Dr. Downey thinks she can attend the event. She is excited to do so, but is working on her nationwide certification and wanted a week or so to clear her schedule and confirm. You can learn about her at: <http://drkeishadowney.com/about/>

What do you mean by a real person storyteller? I figured that Cortney Lovell could do that since she is a recovered addict and a recovery coach, addictions counselor, and national advocate. Did you have something else in mind? Would a call with Cortney be helpful to make sure we are all on the same page?

Also now that you have the venue can you prepare a Save the Date or Invite? How many people do you think will attend?

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 9:16 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Valerie,

We have confirmed the SAG –AFTRA Foundation screening room for the event on the 19th. The address is:

5757 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90036

Below are a few hotel options in the area. We've had folks stay at The Orlando in the past and it seems to work out well.

Elan Hotel \$233/nte
The Orlando \$258/nte
Kimpton Hotel \$300/nte

Any update on confirmation from Dr. Downey? Also, did you have a real person storyteller in mind, or should we work to line somebody up?

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society

USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center
8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Monday, March 13, 2017 at 1:25 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Armine and Kate,

Any update on the venue?

Also, can you give me hotel recommendations or the general vicinity of where I should look? I'll probably fly in on April 19 and out on the 20th. It'll be a quick trip ☺

Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 4:54 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Valerie,
Yes we can incorporate that format for the event. Thanks for letting us know.

We are doing a walk-through of another venue tomorrow so we should have something confirmed soon. Will definitely keep you posted!

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center
8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 11:12 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Armine and Kate,

I've spoken with the SG's staff and they told me that in terms of presentations he prefers a Q & A fireside chat format. See the example from the at Lake Nona Impact Forum:

<https://www.facebook.com/lakenonainstitute/videos/724603937717670/>

Is it possible to incorporate this format in the April 19 event? Also have you been able to find a larger room? I know you were concerned that the Children's Hospital room would not be large enough.

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]

Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 4:21 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb

Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)

Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

This is great – thanks Valerie. We will look over the information and determine the best angles to use. Once we have a draft tip sheet developed, we'll send it over to you for approval.

Best regards,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
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8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 6:14 AM

To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>

Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>, "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I'm not entirely sure how you create the tip sheets. I have included links to two resources in this email that give a lot of detail about opioid use, misuse, treatment and prevention. However, I've also included some angles below that may appeal more to the writers/producers than a fact sheet with data. The information in the two resource links support these angles. Please let me know if all this is helpful and if you need anything else.

The easiest thing is to focus on the increases in women as compared to men, although some of the newest data out of CDC is showing a leveling off in this area (some of the new data is in the HHS/OWH white paper, some came out after it was done). <https://www.womenshealth.gov/publications/federal-report/index.html#a2016>

Some other angles to consider:

1) Women as parents and caregivers: An obvious hook here would be the increase in women using during pregnancy and the rise in neonatal abstinence syndrome, but there are other angles here. For example, women with children have a lot of challenges getting treatment and other resources because they are often not family friendly. There is also the fact that women often bear responsibility for family members with substance use disorders, because of their role as the health care gatekeeper for the family.

2) The dramatic increase in overdoses as a result of fentanyl and other synthetics: While there is not a significant gender disparity here, this is a huge issue that is only going to get worse. One angle is the fact that people are unknowingly buying and using fentanyl because dealers are mixing it with other drugs and not telling their customers (fentanyl is cheaper than other opioids, but also far more deadly in small doses).

3) Naloxone and Good Samaritan laws: This is a good news story – the fact that the increasingly availability of naloxone has cut down the number of fatal overdoses. However, there has been at least one study that has suggested that women are less likely to get naloxone (especially older women) because they do not fit the typical “addict” profile and first responders don’t initially recognize that they have overdosed.

In addition to the white paper provided above, another good resource is the CDC grand rounds session: (<https://www.cdc.gov/cdcgrandrounds/archives/2017/january2017.htm>).

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor

Division of Strategic Communications



ogo_150

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OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 3:13 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb

Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)

Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

In preparation for the April event, we wanted to get started on drafting a tip sheet on opioids. Is there a particular topic or direction you'd like us to focus on for the tip sheet?

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH

Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society

USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center

8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211

p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at 1:07 PM

To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>

Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>

Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I have two potential people for the panel. Let me know what you think.

Dr. Keisha Downey – she has worked in the LA area doing addiction counseling.

Cortney Lovell is a recovery coach, addictions counselor, and national advocate.

I do plan to come to the event as will my supervisor, Jennifer Bishop Crawford. What time of day do you plan to hold the event?

I'm available to discuss further:

Thurs, between 2:30-5

Fri, Between 2:30-5

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2017 5:09 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Yes we are confirmed for April 19th. I'm still waiting to nail down a conference space at Children's Hospital, which is likely to happen, but if for some odd reason it doesn't work we'll find another venue for that date.

Also, I believe you had some "real people" that would be willing to share their personal stories at the panel. We'd like to invite one or two storytellers to give their personal account of opioids addiction/recovery. If you have anyone to recommend that would be great. Will you be joining for the event as well?

Just let me know some dates/times you are available for a call and we can discuss further details.

Best regards,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
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8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 7:36 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I'm checking in again on the date. The SG is planning on the 19th so I hope that date will work. Can we set up a call to go over the details?

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 1:31 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Of course. Will try to confirm that date asap.

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
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From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, January 27, 2017 at 2:05 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I've been told that the SG is available on April 19 so can you please try to make that date work if possible?

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 4:55 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,
We had to look into a venue change because we learned that the WGA venue is unavailable for events through June due to internal negotiations. We are considering a conference room space at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. I'm checking availability for that week of April 17th. I'll let you know the options as soon as possible.

Great blog. We'll definitely share it through our social media as well.

Best,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center
8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 12:18 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Armine and Kate,

Do you have a confirmed date yet for the Writer's Guild West event in April? It looks like the SG will still be with us so the sooner I get an exact date the greater the chances he can attend. I'd also like to get started on reaching out to the other speakers. I have given the tentative dates to the survivor, Cortney Lovell. And just today we posted a blog by her on our website:

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog/the-power-of-women-and-recovery.html>

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 2:59 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Please see the attached form. Let me know if you need anything else. A few spots are guestimates for now (audience size) but a good ballpark to start with.

Thanks,
Armine

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p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Thursday, January 5, 2017 at 8:21 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Armine,

I will keep you posted on the SG's LA date for Jan or March.

Can you look at the attached invitation for the SG to come to the April event and correct and fill in the blanks? I have several question marks, etc.

Thanks!

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 4:14 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Great, just keep us posted on his date in LA and we'll pitch a briefing to a couple of shows. We'll definitely ask Grey's Anatomy since I'm sure they'd be interested in speaking with him in depth.

As for the event, we are looking at either April 19th or 20th. It'll be at the Writers Guild of America, West in Los Angeles. We will be holding a board meeting that evening, and since our board is comprised of network executives and showrunners, we thought it would be great to have the SG be a featured speaker at the meeting for a more intimate event, with possibly a few other handpicked guests as well. It'd be great to have the opioid survivor speak as well (I just need her full name, email and phone to add her to our database).

I'm in the process of checking availability for those dates so I'll let you know as soon as I have more info.

Please let me know if you have any other questions in the meantime.

Best,
Armine

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Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
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8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 11:56 AM
To: Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>, "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Kate and Armine,

The SG's office just let me know that they are currently finalizing his LA schedule. The back- up date for Feb 21st is March 14th. I'll keep you posted on the date so you can set up some meetings.

Also I was told to submit a request for the April Opioids event which is a good sign! Can you tell me if the event is still scheduled for April and any other details so I can put into the SG's invite request? I'll need the subject, location, other invited speakers, etc.

Thanks. Valerie

From: Kate Langrall Folb [<mailto:langrall@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 12:51 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Armine M. Kourouyan
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Happy New Year!

Sorry for the late response but we were closed over the holidays.

Unfortunately, we have another event scheduled for Feb. 22 that we cannot change. However, if the SG would have some time on the 21st, we would love to pitch him to meet one-on-one with a show or two. Do you have any idea when/if the SG will change? How shall we proceed in working with the current SG for the 21st?

Armine will connect with you regarding the opioid survivor.

Kate

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, December 23, 2016 at 8:29 AM
To: Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>, "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Kate and Armine,

I wanted to let you that the Surgeon General will be in Los Angeles on Feb 21. We had hoped to have him participate in the West Coast writers guild event currently scheduled for April (I believe). Since we don't know how long he will stay in his position under the new administration is it possible to hold it in February instead since he will be in LA?

Also I have been in touch with the opioid survivor advocate who was on a panel with the SG at our Opioids meeting. She is willing to participate in the LA event as well as be listed as a SME resource in your database. What do you need from her to get into your database?

Wishing you both happy holidays!

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor

Division of Strategic Communications



_Final_Color

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

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OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

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Sender:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
Recipient:	Armine M. Kourouyan <akourouy@usc.edu>; Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>; Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c4fdb2a19ad4755a5a8932dbf993ff4-Smith, Apri>; Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=39b1d101f0c142cfbd6627b91f14431c-Borden, Val>
Sent Date:	2017/03/23 16:53:34
Delivered Date:	2017/03/23 16:53:00

From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
To:	Armine M. Kourouyan <akourouy@usc.edu>; Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
CC:	Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c4fdb2a19ad4755a5a8932dbf993ff4-Smith, Apri>
Subject:	RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style
Date:	2017/03/23 11:33:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Hi Armine and Kate,

We heard back from Dr. Downey and she is not able to participate or attend the event. Is it possible to add Cortney to the promotional materials? She is the only panelist not listed.

Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [mailto:akourouy@usc.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 5:44 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Valerie,
Cortney Lovell sounds great for that role. Just keep us posted on Dr. Downey. We will definitely set up call with all the panelists as we get closer, likely in early April.

We are brainstorming a title and will create the invite to send out soon. We typically get around 50-75 people in attendance.

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
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p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 7:25 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>

Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Armine,

Great news on securing a venue.

Dr. Downey thinks she can attend the event. She is excited to do so, but is working on her nationwide certification and wanted a week or so to clear her schedule and confirm. You can learn about her at: <http://drkeishadowney.com/about/>

What do you mean by a real person storyteller? I figured that Cortney Lovell could do that since she is a recovered addict and a recovery coach, addictions counselor, and national advocate. Did you have something else in mind? Would a call with Cortney be helpful to make sure we are all on the same page?

Also now that you have the venue can you prepare a Save the Date or Invite? How many people do you think will attend?

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 9:16 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Valerie,

We have confirmed the SAG –AFTRA Foundation screening room for the event on the 19th. The address is:

5757 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90036

Below are a few hotel options in the area. We've had folks stay at The Orlando in the past and it seems to work out well.

Elan Hotel \$233/nte
The Orlando \$258/nte
Kimpton Hotel \$300/nte

Any update on confirmation from Dr. Downey? Also, did you have a real person storyteller in mind, or should we work to line somebody up?

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society

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From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Monday, March 13, 2017 at 1:25 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Armine and Kate,

Any update on the venue?

Also, can you give me hotel recommendations or the general vicinity of where I should look? I'll probably fly in on April 19 and out on the 20th. It'll be a quick trip ☺

Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 4:54 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Valerie,
Yes we can incorporate that format for the event. Thanks for letting us know.

We are doing a walk-through of another venue tomorrow so we should have something confirmed soon. Will definitely keep you posted!

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
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From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 11:12 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Armine and Kate,

I've spoken with the SG's staff and they told me that in terms of presentations he prefers a Q & A fireside chat format. See the example from the at Lake Nona Impact Forum:

<https://www.facebook.com/lakenonainstitute/videos/724603937717670/>

Is it possible to incorporate this format in the April 19 event? Also have you been able to find a larger room? I know you were concerned that the Children's Hospital room would not be large enough.

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]

Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 4:21 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb

Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)

Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

This is great – thanks Valerie. We will look over the information and determine the best angles to use. Once we have a draft tip sheet developed, we'll send it over to you for approval.

Best regards,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
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From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 6:14 AM

To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>

Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>, "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I'm not entirely sure how you create the tip sheets. I have included links to two resources in this email that give a lot of detail about opioid use, misuse, treatment and prevention. However, I've also included some angles below that may appeal more to the writers/producers than a fact sheet with data. The information in the two resource links support these angles. Please let me know if all this is helpful and if you need anything else.

The easiest thing is to focus on the increases in women as compared to men, although some of the newest data out of CDC is showing a leveling off in this area (some of the new data is in the HHS/OWH white paper, some came out after it was done). <https://www.womenshealth.gov/publications/federal-report/index.html#a2016>

Some other angles to consider:

1) Women as parents and caregivers: An obvious hook here would be the increase in women using during pregnancy and the rise in neonatal abstinence syndrome, but there are other angles here. For example, women with children have a lot of challenges getting treatment and other resources because they are often not family friendly. There is also the fact that women often bear responsibility for family members with substance use disorders, because of their role as the health care gatekeeper for the family.

2) The dramatic increase in overdoses as a result of fentanyl and other synthetics: While there is not a significant gender disparity here, this is a huge issue that is only going to get worse. One angle is the fact that people are unknowingly buying and using fentanyl because dealers are mixing it with other drugs and not telling their customers (fentanyl is cheaper than other opioids, but also far more deadly in small doses).

3) Naloxone and Good Samaritan laws: This is a good news story – the fact that the increasingly availability of naloxone has cut down the number of fatal overdoses. However, there has been at least one study that has suggested that women are less likely to get naloxone (especially older women) because they do not fit the typical “addict” profile and first responders don’t initially recognize that they have overdosed.

In addition to the white paper provided above, another good resource is the CDC grand rounds session: (<https://www.cdc.gov/cdcgrandrounds/archives/2017/january2017.htm>).

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor

Division of Strategic Communications



logo_150

Office on Women’s Health

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OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 3:13 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb

Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)

Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

In preparation for the April event, we wanted to get started on drafting a tip sheet on opioids. Is there a particular topic or direction you'd like us to focus on for the tip sheet?

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH

Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society

USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center

8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211

p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>

Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at 1:07 PM

To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>

Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>

Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I have two potential people for the panel. Let me know what you think.

Dr. Keisha Downey – she has worked in the LA area doing addiction counseling.

Cortney Lovell is a recovery coach, addictions counselor, and national advocate.

I do plan to come to the event as will my supervisor, Jennifer Bishop Crawford. What time of day do you plan to hold the event?

I'm available to discuss further:

Thurs, between 2:30-5

Fri, Between 2:30-5

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2017 5:09 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Yes we are confirmed for April 19th. I'm still waiting to nail down a conference space at Children's Hospital, which is likely to happen, but if for some odd reason it doesn't work we'll find another venue for that date.

Also, I believe you had some "real people" that would be willing to share their personal stories at the panel. We'd like to invite one or two storytellers to give their personal account of opioids addiction/recovery. If you have anyone to recommend that would be great. Will you be joining for the event as well?

Just let me know some dates/times you are available for a call and we can discuss further details.

Best regards,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
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From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 7:36 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I'm checking in again on the date. The SG is planning on the 19th so I hope that date will work. Can we set up a call to go over the details?

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 1:31 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Of course. Will try to confirm that date asap.

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
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From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, January 27, 2017 at 2:05 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I've been told that the SG is available on April 19 so can you please try to make that date work if possible?

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 4:55 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,
We had to look into a venue change because we learned that the WGA venue is unavailable for events through June due to internal negotiations. We are considering a conference room space at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. I'm checking availability for that week of April 17th. I'll let you know the options as soon as possible.

Great blog. We'll definitely share it through our social media as well.

Best,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
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p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 12:18 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Armine and Kate,

Do you have a confirmed date yet for the Writer's Guild West event in April? It looks like the SG will still be with us so the sooner I get an exact date the greater the chances he can attend. I'd also like to get started on reaching out to the other speakers. I have given the tentative dates to the survivor, Cortney Lovell. And just today we posted a blog by her on our website:

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog/the-power-of-women-and-recovery.html>

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 2:59 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Please see the attached form. Let me know if you need anything else. A few spots are guestimates for now (audience size) but a good ballpark to start with.

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
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p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Thursday, January 5, 2017 at 8:21 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Armine,

I will keep you posted on the SG's LA date for Jan or March.

Can you look at the attached invitation for the SG to come to the April event and correct and fill in the blanks? I have several question marks, etc.

Thanks!

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 4:14 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Great, just keep us posted on his date in LA and we'll pitch a briefing to a couple of shows. We'll definitely ask Grey's Anatomy since I'm sure they'd be interested in speaking with him in depth.

As for the event, we are looking at either April 19th or 20th. It'll be at the Writers Guild of America, West in Los Angeles. We will be holding a board meeting that evening, and since our board is comprised of network executives and showrunners, we thought it would be great to have the SG be a featured speaker at the meeting for a more intimate event, with possibly a few other handpicked guests as well. It'd be great to have the opioid survivor speak as well (I just need her full name, email and phone to add her to our database).

I'm in the process of checking availability for those dates so I'll let you know as soon as I have more info.

Please let me know if you have any other questions in the meantime.

Best,
Armine

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p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 11:56 AM
To: Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>, "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Kate and Armine,

The SG's office just let me know that they are currently finalizing his LA schedule. The back- up date for Feb 21st is March 14th. I'll keep you posted on the date so you can set up some meetings.

Also I was told to submit a request for the April Opioids event which is a good sign! Can you tell me if the event is still scheduled for April and any other details so I can put into the SG's invite request? I'll need the subject, location, other invited speakers, etc.

Thanks. Valerie

From: Kate Langrall Folb [<mailto:langrall@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 12:51 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Armine M. Kourouyan
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Happy New Year!

Sorry for the late response but we were closed over the holidays.

Unfortunately, we have another event scheduled for Feb. 22 that we cannot change. However, if the SG would have some time on the 21st, we would love to pitch him to meet one-on-one with a show or two. Do you have any idea when/if the SG will change? How shall we proceed in working with the current SG for the 21st?

Armine will connect with you regarding the opioid survivor.

Kate

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, December 23, 2016 at 8:29 AM
To: Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>, "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Kate and Armine,

I wanted to let you that the Surgeon General will be in Los Angeles on Feb 21. We had hoped to have him participate in the West Coast writers guild event currently scheduled for April (I believe). Since we don't know how long he will stay in his position under the new administration is it possible to hold it in February instead since he will be in LA?

Also I have been in touch with the opioid survivor advocate who was on a panel with the SG at our Opioids meeting. She is willing to participate in the LA event as well as be listed as a SME resource in your database. What do you need from her to get into your database?

Wishing you both happy holidays!

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor

Division of Strategic Communications



o_Final_Color

Office on Women's Health

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Valerie.borden@hhs.gov

Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-0270

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

Sender:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
Recipient:	Armine M. Kourouyan <akourouy@usc.edu>; Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>; Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC) </o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=c4fdb2a19ad4755a5a8932dbf993ff4-Smith, Apri>
Sent Date:	2017/03/23 11:33:52
Delivered Date:	2017/03/23 11:33:00

From:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
To:	Armine M. Kourouyan <akourouy@usc.edu>
Subject:	RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style
Date:	2017/03/24 07:26:00
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

Cortney Lovell, recovery coach, addictions counselor, and national advocate
Thanks!

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [mailto:akourouy@usc.edu]
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 12:49 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Valerie, how should we list Cortney's title?

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center
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p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 8:33 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Armine and Kate,

We heard back from Dr. Downey and she is not able to participate or attend the event. Is it possible to add Cortney to the promotional materials? She is the only panelist not listed.

Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [mailto:akourouy@usc.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 5:44 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Valerie,

Cortney Lovell sounds great for that role. Just keep us posted on Dr. Downey. We will definitely set up call with all the panelists as we get closer, likely in early April.

We are brainstorming a title and will create the invite to send out soon. We typically get around 50-75 people in attendance.

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
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p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 7:25 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Armine,

Great news on securing a venue.

Dr. Downey thinks she can attend the event. She is excited to do so, but is working on her nationwide certification and wanted a week or so to clear her schedule and confirm. You can learn about her at: <http://drkeishadowney.com/about/>

What do you mean by a real person storyteller? I figured that Cortney Lovell could do that since she is a recovered addict and a recovery coach, addictions counselor, and national advocate. Did you have something else in mind? Would a call with Cortney be helpful to make sure we are all on the same page?

Also now that you have the venue can you prepare a Save the Date or Invite? How many people do you think will attend?

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 9:16 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Valerie,

We have confirmed the SAG –AFTRA Foundation screening room for the event on the 19th. The address is:

5757 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90036

Below are a few hotel options in the area. We've had folks stay at The Orlando in the past and it seems to work out well.

Elan Hotel \$233/nte
The Orlando \$258/nte
Kimpton Hotel \$300/nte

Any update on confirmation from Dr. Downey? Also, did you have a real person storyteller in mind, or should we work to line somebody up?

Thanks,
Armine

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From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Monday, March 13, 2017 at 1:25 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Armine and Kate,

Any update on the venue?

Also, can you give me hotel recommendations or the general vicinity of where I should look? I'll probably fly in on April 19 and out on the 20th. It'll be a quick trip ☺

Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 4:54 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Hi Valerie,

Yes we can incorporate that format for the event. Thanks for letting us know.

We are doing a walk-through of another venue tomorrow so we should have something confirmed soon. Will definitely keep you posted!

Thanks,
Armine

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From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 11:12 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General's preferred presentation style

Armine and Kate,

I've spoken with the SG's staff and they told me that in terms of presentations he prefers a Q & A fireside chat format. See the example from the at Lake Nona Impact Forum:

<https://www.facebook.com/lakenonainstitute/videos/724603937717670/>

Is it possible to incorporate this format in the April 19 event? Also have you been able to find a larger room? I know you were concerned that the Children's Hospital room would not be large enough.

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 4:21 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

This is great – thanks Valerie. We will look over the information and determine the best angles to use. Once we have a draft tip sheet developed, we'll send it over to you for approval.

Best regards,
Armine

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Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
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p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 6:14 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>, "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I'm not entirely sure how you create the tip sheets. I have included links to two resources in this email that give a lot of detail about opioid use, misuse, treatment and prevention. However, I've also included some angles below that may appeal more to the writers/producers than a fact sheet with data. The information in the two resource links support these angles. Please let me know if all this is helpful and if you need anything else.

The easiest thing is to focus on the increases in women as compared to men, although some of the newest data out of CDC is showing a leveling off in this area (some of the new data is in the HHS/OWH white paper, some came out after it was done). <https://www.womenshealth.gov/publications/federal-report/index.html#a2016>

Some other angles to consider:

- 1) Women as parents and caregivers: An obvious hook here would be the increase in women using during pregnancy and the rise in neonatal abstinence syndrome, but there are other angles here. For example, women with children have a lot of challenges getting treatment and other resources because they are often not family friendly. There is also the fact that women often bear responsibility for family members with substance use disorders, because of their role as the health care gatekeeper for the family.
- 2) The dramatic increase in overdoses as a result of fentanyl and other synthetics: While there is not a significant gender disparity here, this is a huge issue that is only going to get worse. One angle is the fact that people are unknowingly buying and using fentanyl because dealers are mixing it with other drugs and not telling their customers (fentanyl is cheaper than other opioids, but also far more deadly in small doses).
- 3) Naloxone and Good Samaritan laws: This is a good news story – the fact that the increasingly availability of naloxone has cut down the number of fatal overdoses. However, there has been at least one study that has suggested that women are less likely to get naloxone (especially older women) because they do not fit the typical “addict” profile and first responders don’t initially recognize that they have overdosed.

In addition to the white paper provided above, another good resource is the CDC grand rounds session: (<https://www.cdc.gov/cdcgrandrounds/archives/2017/january2017.htm>).

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor

Division of Strategic Communications



ogo_150

Office on Women's Health

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Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-0270

Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov

OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov

Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

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Sent: Tuesday, February 21, 2017 3:13 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb

Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)

Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

In preparation for the April event, we wanted to get started on drafting a tip sheet on opioids. Is there a particular topic or direction you'd like us to focus on for the tip sheet?

Thanks,

Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH

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Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>

Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I have two potential people for the panel. Let me know what you think.

Dr. Keisha Downey – she has worked in the LA area doing addiction counseling.

Cortney Lovell is a recovery coach, addictions counselor, and national advocate.

I do plan to come to the event as will my supervisor, Jennifer Bishop Crawford. What time of day do you plan to hold the event?

I'm available to discuss further:

Thurs, between 2:30-5

Fri, Between 2:30-5

Best,

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 07, 2017 5:09 PM

To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb

Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)

Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Yes we are confirmed for April 19th. I'm still waiting to nail down a conference space at Children's Hospital, which is likely to happen, but if for some odd reason it doesn't work we'll find another venue for that date.

Also, I believe you had some "real people" that would be willing to share their personal stories at the panel. We'd like to invite one or two storytellers to give their personal account of opioids addiction/recovery. If you have anyone to recommend that would be great. Will you be joining for the event as well?

Just let me know some dates/times you are available for a call and we can discuss further details.

Best regards,

Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH

Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society

USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center

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Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 7:36 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I'm checking in again on the date. The SG is planning on the 19th so I hope that date will work. Can we set up a call to go over the details?

Thanks. Valerie

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Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 1:31 PM
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Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Of course. Will try to confirm that date asap.

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Date: Friday, January 27, 2017 at 2:05 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Armine,

I've been told that the SG is available on April 19 so can you please try to make that date work if possible?

Thanks. Valerie

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 4:55 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb

Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

We had to look into a venue change because we learned that the WGAW venue is unavailable for events through June due to internal negotiations. We are considering a conference room space at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. I'm checking availability for that week of April 17th. I'll let you know the options as soon as possible.

Great blog. We'll definitely share it through our social media as well.

Best,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center
8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 12:18 PM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Armine and Kate,

Do you have a confirmed date yet for the Writer's Guild West event in April? It looks like the SG will still be with us so the sooner I get an exact date the greater the chances he can attend. I'd also like to get started on reaching out to the other speakers. I have given the tentative dates to the survivor, Cortney Lovell. And just today we posted a blog by her on our website:

<https://www.womenshealth.gov/blog/the-power-of-women-and-recovery.html>

Thanks.

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Thursday, January 05, 2017 2:59 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Please see the attached form. Let me know if you need anything else. A few spots are guestimates for now (audience size) but a good ballpark to start with.

Thanks,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
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p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Thursday, January 5, 2017 at 8:21 AM
To: "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>, Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Armine,

I will keep you posted on the SG's LA date for Jan or March.

Can you look at the attached invitation for the SG to come to the April event and correct and fill in the blanks? I have several question marks, etc.

Thanks!

Valerie Borden

From: Armine M. Kourouyan [<mailto:akourouy@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 4:14 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Kate Langrall Folb
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,

Great, just keep us posted on his date in LA and we'll pitch a briefing to a couple of shows. We'll definitely ask Grey's Anatomy since I'm sure they'd be interested in speaking with him in depth.

As for the event, we are looking at either April 19th or 20th. It'll be at the Writers Guild of America, West in Los Angeles. We will be holding a board meeting that evening, and since our board is comprised of network executives and showrunners, we thought it would be great to have the SG be a featured speaker at the meeting for a more intimate event, with possibly a few other handpicked guests as well.

It'd be great to have the opioid survivor speak as well (I just need her full name, email and phone to add her to our database).

I'm in the process of checking availability for those dates so I'll let you know as soon as I have more info.

Please let me know if you have any other questions in the meantime.

Best,
Armine

Armine Kourouyan, MPH
Project Manager | Hollywood, Health & Society
USC Annenberg Norman Lear Center
8383 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 650 | Beverly Hills, CA 90211
p: 323-782-3314 | e: akourouy@usc.edu | www.usc.edu/hhs

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 11:56 AM
To: Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>, "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: RE: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Kate and Armine,

The SG's office just let me know that they are currently finalizing his LA schedule. The back-up date for Feb 21st is March 14th. I'll keep you posted on the date so you can set up some meetings.

Also I was told to submit a request for the April Opioids event which is a good sign! Can you tell me if the event is still scheduled for April and any other details so I can put into the SG's invite request? I'll need the subject, location, other invited speakers, etc.

Thanks. Valerie

From: Kate Langrall Folb [<mailto:langrall@usc.edu>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 04, 2017 12:51 PM
To: Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH); Armine M. Kourouyan
Cc: Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)
Subject: Re: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Valerie,
Happy New Year!
Sorry for the late response but we were closed over the holidays.
Unfortunately, we have another event scheduled for Feb. 22 that we cannot change. However, if the SG would have some time on the 21st, we would love to pitch him to meet one-on-one with a show or two.

Do you have any idea when/if the SG will change? How shall we proceed in working with the current SG for the 21st?

Armine will connect with you regarding the opioid survivor.

Kate

From: "Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH)" <Valerie.Borden@hhs.gov>
Date: Friday, December 23, 2016 at 8:29 AM
To: Kate Langrall Folb <langrall@usc.edu>, "Armine M. Kourouyan" <akourouy@usc.edu>
Cc: "Smith, April (CDC/OD/OADC)" <zll5@cdc.gov>
Subject: Surgeon General in LA in February

Hi Kate and Armine,

I wanted to let you that the Surgeon General will be in Los Angeles on Feb 21. We had hoped to have him participate in the West Coast writers guild event currently scheduled for April (I believe). Since we don't know how long he will stay in his position under the new administration is it possible to hold it in February instead since he will be in LA?

Also I have been in touch with the opioid survivor advocate who was on a panel with the SG at our Opioids meeting. She is willing to participate in the LA event as well as be listed as a SME resource in your database. What do you need from her to get into your database?

Wishing you both happy holidays!

Valerie Borden

Senior Advisor
Division of Strategic Communications



_Final_Color

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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 712E, Washington, DC 20201

E-mail: Valerie.borden@hhs.gov
Main: 202-690-7650 | Direct: 202-205-0270
Websites: www.womenshealth.gov | www.girlshealth.gov
OWH Helpline: 1-800-994-9662 | womenshealth@hhs.gov
Connect with us on: [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [RSS](#)

Sender:	Borden, Valerie (HHS/OASH) </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=39B1D101F0C142CFBD6627B91F14431C-BORDEN, VAL>
Recipient:	Armine M. Kourouyan < akourouy@usc.edu >
Sent Date:	2017/03/24 07:25:51
Delivered Date:	2017/03/24 07:26:00

From:	Bulletin Intelligence <HHS@BulletinIntelligence.com>
To:	<HHS@bulletinintelligence.com>
Subject:	HHS News Briefing for Friday, November 17, 2017
Date:	2017/11/17 07:31:45
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

HHS NEWS BRIEFING

This document and searchable archives are available at hhs.bulletinintelligence.com.

TO: THE SECRETARY AND SENIOR STAFF

DATE: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2017 7:30 AM EST

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- + IRS Begins Enforcing ACA's Employer Mandate.
- + Poll Finds Majority Blame Trump, Republicans For ACA Problems.
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- + Virginia County Has Highest ACA Premiums In The US, Analysis Indicates.
- + Enrollment On Colorado's Health Insurance Exchange Up 33 Percent So Far This Year.
- + WPost Fact Checker Assesses GOP Claims On ACA Individual Mandate Penalty.
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- + Senators Aim To Target HHS Funds For States Hit Hard By Opioid Overdoses.
- + Insys Founder Pleads Not Guilty To Opioid Bribe Scheme.
- + Young Rapper's Death Prompts Conversation About Addiction.
- + Opioid Epidemic Cost US Economy \$95 Billion In 2016, Reports Finds.
- + Opioid Epidemic Helping To Spread Hepatitis C In Georgia.
- + Utah House Speaker Presses State's Counties To Sue Pharmaceutical Industry Over Opioid Crisis.
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- + Healthcare Costs Squeeze Middle-Income Americans, Experts Say.
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- + Column Laments Challenges Of Finding Nursing Home For Father With Dementia.
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- + New Hampshire Commission Urges Legislature To Extend, Change Medicaid Program.
- + HHS Audit Finds Improper Medicaid Payments In North Carolina.
- + San Diego Nursing Homes Settle Kickback Suits.

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- + NYTimes Covers Advice For Upcoming Cold And Flu Season.
- + Inspector General Investigation Finds Colorado VA Facilities Used Improper Wait Lists For Veterans' Mental Healthcare.
- + High Cost Of Gene Therapy Scrutinized As It Enters US Market.
- + California Health Officials Investigate Source Of Legionnaires' Outbreak Beyond Disneyland.
- + Toxic Algae Becoming A Nationwide Threat.
- + Wyoming Health Department Says Gastrointestinal Illnesses Connected.
- + First Case Of Ceftriaxone-Resistant Gonorrhea Identified In North America.
- + Alzheimer's Experts Acknowledge Increased Visibility, Challenges Of The Disease.
- + EPA Approves Expansion Of Anti-Mosquito Scheme.
- + FDA Approves Hemophilia Drug, Includes Strong Warning.
- + FDA Backs Frontline Obinutuzumab For Follicular Lymphoma.
- + Federal Jury Clears Endo Unit Of Liability In First Testosterone Replacement Trial.
- + Eating Nuts May Reduce Risk Of Heart Disease, Research Suggests.
- + California Releases Rules For Medical, Recreational Marijuana.
- + Formerly Unnamed NFL Player In Breakthrough CTE Study Identified As Fred McNeill.
- + Cord Blood Bank Program Challenged By Financial Struggles, Declining Donations.
- + Arizona County Confirms Area's First Hantavirus Case Of Year.
- + Mental Quickness May Lead To Lower Risk Of Dementia, Study Suggests.
- + Juno Therapeutics Discusses Results Of Investigation Into CAR-T Therapy Patient Deaths.
- + Jury Finds In Favor Of Johnson & Johnson In California Talc Trial.
- + Medical Society Of The State Of New York To Start National Diabetes Prevention Program.
- + Even Very Light Exercise May Reduce Mortality In Older Women, Researchers Say.
- + Speed In Gobbling Food May Be Linked To Metabolic Syndrome, Research Suggests.
- + Baby Boomers Have 60% Lower Risk Of Developing AMD Than The Previous Generation, Study Indicates.

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- + Philippines Reallows Contraceptive Devices After Certifying They Do Not Cause Abortions.
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- + Indian Government Unlikely To Act On Smog This Year.
- + Madagascar Fights Off Worst Outbreak Of Plague In 50 Years.
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- + Medical Emergency Halts Australian State Parliament's "Marathon" Euthanasia Debate.
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Leading the News:

HOUSE PASSES TAX REFORM BILL, BUT SENATE VERSION, WHICH INCLUDES REPEAL OF THE ACA'S INDIVIDUAL MANDATE, REMAINS IN DOUBT. In a front-page story, the [New York Times](#) (11/16, A1, Kaplan, Rappeport, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that on Thursday, by a vote of 227-205, the House passed "a sweeping rewrite of the tax code...taking a significant leap forward as Republicans seek to enact \$1.5 trillion in tax cuts for businesses and individuals, and deliver the first major legislative achievement of President Trump's tenure." The article says it is now the Senate Republicans' turn, although their tax bill suffered a "setback" because the Joint Committee on Taxation concluded that the measure will result in higher taxes for lower-income consumers. The Times says this updated analysis is the result of the Senate including a provision that would repeal the ACA's individual mandate.

All three major network newscasts reported on the story. [ABC World News Tonight](#) (11/16, story 3, 2:35, Vega, 14.63M) offered a negative view of the legislation, calling the vote a "small victory" for Trump "on a bill that would add \$1.4 trillion to the deficit over ten years."

[NBC Nightly News](#) (11/16, story 3, 2:00, Welker, 16.61M) said that "according to an NBC News analysis based on Mr. Trump's leaked 2005 tax return, the House bill...would save the President more than \$20 million and his heirs could potentially save \$1.1 billion." NBC News' John Heilemann was shown saying, "What they got to try to do is convince most Americans that this is not going to be just a sop to the wealthy, but it will help the middle class. That will be a hard sell given what's in this bill."

The [CBS Evening News](#) (11/16, story 3, 2:25, Cordes, 11.17M) said "the 'Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017' shrinks the number of brackets from seven to four, lowering rates and eliminating

some deductions,” and added that “the independent Tax Policy Center estimates that Americans who make between \$50,000 and \$90,000 a year would get an average tax cut next year of about \$800.”

The [Washington Post](#) (11/16, A1, Debonis, Paletta, 10.38M) also reports on its front page that while the House passed its tax reform plan, the Senate still faces “obstacles.” The article says no Democrats voted for the House bill, and 13 Republicans voted against it. House GOP leaders were confident the measure would pass, and could have afforded to lose up to 22 votes. The piece adds that it remains to be seen if “the final tax bill will resemble anything like what the House passed Thursday.” That is because the Senate’s version of the bill, called the “Tax Cuts and Jobs Act,” has “major differences – including a controversial repeal of the Affordable Care Act’s mandate that individuals purchase health insurance.”

[USA Today](#) (11/16, Jackson, 8.62M) reports that the vote was a win for House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI), yet whether it “is a sign that one-party government under President Trump has started to click, or it is a Pyrrhic victory that founders in the Senate like this spring’s attempt to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, will be decided in coming weeks.”

Likewise, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/16, A1, Rubin, Hughes, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports on its front page that the vote was a victory for Ryan and President Trump. Ryan is quoted as saying, “We are in a generational defining moment for our country. ... It is finally time that we get the general interest of this country to prevail over the special interests in Washington.”

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (11/16, Mascaro, Puzzanghera, 4.49M) reports that Ryan also said, “Passing this bill is the single biggest thing we can do to grow the economy, restore opportunity and help these middle income families that are struggling.” The piece says this passage sets “up a showdown with the Senate, where Republicans are struggling to take a different approach.” The article mentions the Committee’s prediction that the Senate’s bill would lead to higher taxes for lower-income consumers, and says Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR) called the news “jaw-dropping.” But Senate Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-UT) argued, “Anyone who says we’re hiking taxes on low-income families is misstating the facts.”

[Politico](#) (11/16, Bade, Bresnahan, Lorenzo, 3.6M) also reports that “House passage is just the beginning of what’s likely to be a lengthy few weeks of intraparty haggling to get the bill to Trump’s desk.” The article says the Senate must still pass its own version of the bill, and that process “will be an uphill battle.”

Also covering the story are [Bloomberg News](#) (11/16, Edgerton, 4.52M), the [AP](#) (11/16, Fram, Gordon), the [Boston Globe](#) (11/16, McGrane, 969K), [NPR](#) (11/16, Naylor, 2.4M), [Roll Call](#) (11/16, McPherson, 134K), [The Hill](#) (11/16, Jagoda, Marcos, 1.68M), [Reuters](#) (11/16, Morgan, Becker), the [Washington Times](#) (11/16, Dinan, 541K), and the [Washington Examiner](#) (11/16, Ferrechio, 465K).

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE ADVANCES GOP TAX REFORM BILL. The [Washington Times](#) (11/16, Sherfinski, 541K) reports the Senate Finance Committee advanced Republicans’ \$1.5 trillion tax legislation on a party line vote, 14 to 12. Chairman Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT) said, “While we’ve cleared a major hurdle tonight, there is still much work to be done and I look forward to working with my colleagues to get this across the finish line.” The article points out that, unlike the House bill, the Senate’s proposal “includes a repeal of Obamacare’s individual mandate, which requires most Americans to purchase health insurance or pay a fine.”

[The Hill](#) (11/16, Jagoda, 1.68M) reports Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) said, “When the Senate returns after Thanksgiving, I will bring this must-pass legislation to the floor for further debate and open consideration.” Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR), the ranking Democrat on the committee, said “I think this is indefensible, partisan legislation.” The Hill says that Republicans have “little margin for error” in a Senate vote, with Sen. Ron Johnson (R-WI) declaring opposition

earlier this week and Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME) who “expressed concerns about including individual mandate repeal in the bill.”

The [Washington Examiner](#) (11/16, Lawler, 465K) reports Hatch quipped, “I won’t count any proverbial chickens before they’re hatched – no pun intended – but I think we’ve produced a bill that can and will pass both chambers.” The Examiner adds that the “biggest question looming over the bill is whether it will pass while including a repeal of Obamacare’s individual mandate,” explaining that provision could “endanger” votes by “Republican centrists such as” Collins. Sen. John Thune (R-SD), the chamber’s third-highest ranking Republican, said that “frankly, the individual mandate is a tax issue.”

Also reporting is [CNN](#) (11/16, Killough, Mattingly, 33.59M).

The Secretary in the News:

NEW HHS SECRETARY WILL TAKE OVER AN AGENCY FACING CRITICISM. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/17, Armour, Radnofsky, Mathews, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that President Trump’s nominee for Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, Alex Azar, would take over an agency facing criticism from state officials for being nonresponsive to requests for waivers, as well as from current and former employees for rising tension between political appointees and career staff. The Journal discusses complaints about CMS and its Administrator Seema Verma, as some have said that she is often inaccessible.

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER NOMINATION OF AZAR FOR HHS SECRETARY ON NOVEMBER 29. [The Hill](#) (11/16, Rouben, 1.68M) reports that the Senate Health Committee will consider the nomination of Alex Azar for HHS Secretary on November 29. The article says Democrats will probably “rigorously question Azar on his time as a pharmaceutical executive and on his plans for ObamaCare – a law he’s criticized, but that HHS is charged with implementing as congressional Republicans failed to repeal it earlier this year.” The piece adds that Azar and Health Committee Chairman Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN) met on Thursday, “and Alexander said in a statement that he was ‘impressed’” with Azar’s “knowledge and experience. As a former Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services and private sector executive, Alex Azar has the qualifications to get results.”

The [Washington Examiner](#) (11/16, Leonard, 465K) also covers the story.

MCCAIN WARNS TRUMP ABOUT STAFFING PENTAGON WITH INDUSTRY INSIDERS. [Reuters](#) (11/16, Stewart) reports Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) took issue with President Trump’s repeated nominations of “defense industry insiders to top Pentagon posts” during a Senate armed services committee hearing Thursday on the nominee for undersecretary of Defense. McCain said, “From this point forward, I will not support any further nominees with that background,” in reference to John Rood, a former executive from Lockheed Martin Corp. The article mentions that Trump recently nominated former pharmaceutical executive and lobbyist Alex Azar to be Health and Human Services Secretary.

HHS in the News:

STATES CAN LEARN FROM ONE ANOTHER TO BOOST HEALTHCARE. The [New York Times](#) (11/16, Khullar, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) “Upshot” blog reports that if states were to improve to the level of the top-performing states, “we’d see gains across the country,” including 20 million more people insured and 14 million fewer skipping care because of cost, plus 124,000 fewer hospital readmissions and 90,000 fewer premature deaths. Republicans have focused on “granting states greater flexibility to design and manage their health systems.” CMS Administrator Seema Verma has promised to give states an “unprecedented level of flexibility” to devise their Medicaid programs. The Times looks at several ways in which states “use health policy freedom,”

such as Alaska applying for a Section 1332 waiver “to expand its reinsurance program” and California Public Employees’ Retirement System changing “how it paid for common procedures, a move that drastically reduced prices and saved the state millions.”

CMS ADMINISTRATOR SEEMA VERMA TO SPEAK AT 2017 FORBES HEALTHCARE

SUMMIT. [Forbes](#) (11/16, Herper, 5.11M) reports that Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Administrator Seema Verma will “outline her agenda” at the 2017 Forbes Healthcare Summit on November 30 in New York. She will appear with Forbes Opinion Editor Avik Roy and they plan to discuss the “future of health insurance, and of the government programs that pay for much of American health care,” focusing on the types of plans that can control healthcare costs. The summit will also include sessions focused on the opioid crisis featuring Thomas Frieden, the former director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Nora Volkow, the director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

MEDICARE’S IMPROPER PAYMENT RATE FALLS BELOW 10 PERCENT IN 2017. [Fierce Healthcare](#) (11/16, Small, 146K) reports Kimberly Brandt, principal deputy administrator for operations at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, said in a blog post that the improper payment rate in 2017 for fee-for-service Medicare dropped to 9.5 percent from 11 percent last year. Fierce says this is “the first time since 2013 that figure has been below 10%.” The piece adds that “the majority of improper payments are tied to documentation errors and are thus not necessarily expenses that shouldn’t have occurred.” Brandt said, “CMS is pleased to have achieved this reduction in the improper payment rate, but we still have work to do.”

[Modern Healthcare](#) (11/16, Subscription Publication, 238K) reports that all told, the improper payments dropped \$4.9 billion from 2016 to 2017. Modern Healthcare explains, “Improper payments include fraudulent claims, payments distributed to the wrong recipient or for the wrong amount, payments with insufficient documentation and issues where the recipient uses the funds improperly.” The piece quotes Brandt saying, “We remain committed to collaborating across CMS and with stakeholders to address potential vulnerabilities and continuing to strengthen our program integrity efforts, while minimizing burden for our partners.”

CANADIAN HEALTH EXPERTS PRAISE US’ CENTER FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID

INNOVATION. [Kaiser Health News](#) (11/17, Luthra) reports that healthcare policy experts in Canada hold the US’ Center for Medicare & Medicaid Innovation (CMMI) in “high esteem.” The article says that “the center’s mission” to test “innovations to hold down health care costs while increasing quality” draws praise from Canadians, and “researchers and clinicians talk about its potential to foster experimentation,” leading the US “to think creatively about payment and reimbursement models.” The article discusses CMS Administrator Seema Verma’s comments in September to move CMMI “in a new direction” and efforts by the Trump Administration to limit “CMMI’s footprint.”

HOUSE PANEL ADVISES HHS TO SECURE MEDICAL DEVICE SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY.

[The Hill](#) (11/16, Uchill, 1.68M) reports, “House Energy and Commerce Chair Greg Walden (R-Oregon) sent a letter on behalf of the committee to” the Department of Health and Human Services requesting that “the agency begin requiring device makers to list bills of materials (BOMs) – an accounting of third-party software components used in each product.” Walden wrote in the letter that stakeholders often have no way of knowing what software or hardware exist within medical equipment, and “this lack of visibility directly affects the ability of these stakeholders to assess their levels of risk and adjust their strategies appropriately.” The Hill reports, “BOMs are a popular ask among device advocacy groups, both for medical tools and beyond.”

FUTURE UNCERTAIN FOR INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE’S MANAGEMENT OF RESERVATION

HOSPITALS. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/16, Weaver, Frosch, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports federal management of three hospitals run by the Indian Health Service is in jeopardy. Pine Ridge Indian Hospital in South Dakota will be barred from billing Medicare effective Saturday

after CMS found it continuously out of compliance, while leaders of the Winnebago tribe in Nebraska voted to take control of an IHS hospital on its lands. Meanwhile, amid a confrontation with the IHS, the South Dakota-based Rosebud Sioux Tribe's council said last week it would force the departure of five agency officials from its reservation.

SURGEON GENERAL BACKS “ONCE-CONTROVERSIAL” MEASURE TO COMBAT OPIOID EPIDEMIC. [MedPage Today](#) (11/16, Firth, 60K) reports US Surgeon General Jerome Adams “expressed support for once-controversial policies such as needle exchanges and ‘Housing First’ initiatives during a hearing of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee on Wednesday.” Adams “focused on the interplay between the economy and wellness” and mentioned, in the article’s words, that in some areas “jobs remain open because employers can’t find individuals who can pass a drug test to fill the posts.” Asked if he could commit to helping the Trump Administration identify resources to fight the opioid epidemic, Adams said the Department of Health and Human Services “has its foot on the gas and we will not take it off until we start to see some progress.”

FDA INTRODUCES NEW GUIDELINES FOR GENE, STEM CELL THERAPIES. The [New York Times](#) (11/16, Kaplan, Grady, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports the FDA on Thursday issued new guidelines to expedite the “introduction of treatments involving human cells and tissues, including gene therapy.” The agency also said it will crack down on “rogue clinics offering dangerous or unproven versions of those treatments.” FDA Commissioner Dr. Scott Gottlieb said concepts like gene therapies are “no longer the stuff of science fiction, but rather, real-life science where cells and tissues can be engineered to grow healthy, functional organs to replace diseased ones; where new genes can be introduced into the body to combat disease; and where adult stem cells can generate replacements for cells that are lost to injury or illness.” According to the guidelines, promising gene and cell therapies to treat unmet medical needs and serious illnesses may qualify for expedited review. The agency will still “require clinical trials, but it is promising a faster process, as required by Congress under the 2016 21st Century Cures Act.”

The [AP](#) (11/16, Perrone) reports the FDA outlined a strategy to increase oversight on the hundreds of private clinics offering stem cell procedures that have opened across the nation in the past decade. Many of these businesses promote stem cell injections to treat diseases that “can cost \$5,000 to \$50,000, but there’s little research that such procedures are safe or effective.” FDA officials said they will focus their enforcement efforts on “bad actors” in the industry, who “inject stem cell mixtures into the bloodstream, nervous system or eyes.” Gottlieb said on a conference call with reporters, “We’re going to be prioritizing places where we see products – not just being promoted inappropriately – but putting patients at potential risk.” He added that the agency will use discretion in overseeing lower-risk procedures.

[STAT](#) (11/16, Joseph, 43K) reports that the FDA said it will “use discretion when enforcing such regulations over the next three years to give clinics a chance to comply with them and apply for FDA approval for their products, but that the agency will crack down on products that could be dangerous.” However, some experts in favor of tougher regulations of clinics “have said the FDA needs to be taking more enforcement actions now and that the three-year transition period could allow the clinics to keep putting patients at risk.”

The [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) (11/16, McCullough, 1.71M) reports the FDA this week also “issued guidelines for exempting certain cell and tissue treatments from the costly drug approval process.” The policy establishes “criteria for using biological products without formal FDA approval. The cells or tissues must come from the patient being treated; be used for the same function they perform naturally in the body; and be ‘minimally manipulated.’” Gottlieb said in a statement, “Our aim is to make sure we’re being nimble when it comes to fostering innovation, while taking steps to protect the safety of patients.”

GOTTLIEB INTERVIEWED ABOUT SHAPING FUTURE OF FDA’S REGULATORY PROCESS. [Healio](#) (11/16, 12K) interviewed FDA Commissioner Dr. Scott Gottlieb about how his own battle

with Hodgkin lymphoma at the age of 33 has helped him approach his new role “in an attempt to loosen FDA regulations that get in the way of patients benefiting from the promise of cutting-edge therapies.” He said a challenge the agency faces is thinking “about how we design a regulatory process that serves all patients.” According to Healio, since being named head of the FDA, Gottlieb has “spearheaded attempts to address the opioid epidemic, crusaded for the reduction of nicotine in cigarettes, orchestrated a crackdown on what he called ‘deceitful’ stem cell clinics that claim to have cures for disease, and has witnessed the first approval of chimeric antigen receptor T-cell gene therapy in the United States.” Gottlieb also said the FDA’s Oncology Center for Excellence needs to be “securely funded because that really is the model for how we’re going to make this work.”

OP-ED: CIGARETTES KILL 15 TIMES MORE PEOPLE THAN OPIOID CRISIS. Julia Belluz writes for [Vox](#) (11/16, 1.54M) that cigarettes kill at a rate “15 times the death toll from the opioid crisis,” but a new Food and Drug Administration initiative could “drive down the US smoking rate much, much further.” FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb “said the agency plans to set new, much lower limits on the amount of nicotine in tobacco, essentially forcing companies to reengineer cigarettes so they’ll be less addictive,” Belluz says “the move is unprecedented,” but the US “still lags behind most other countries.”

FDA TO INCREASE OVERSIGHT OF “REGENERATIVE MEDICINE.” [HealthDay](#) (11/16, 11K) reports the FDA Commissioner Dr. Scott Gottlieb said on Thursday that the agency has its eye on the field of “regenerative medicine.” Gottlieb said in an agency news release, “In the last decade, we’ve seen improbable advances that hold out great hope for patients. I believe that with the ability to facilitate the regeneration of parts of the human body, we’re bearing witness to the beginning of a paradigm shift in the practice of medicine.” According to the National Institutes of Health, for the past few years “scientists and physicians have developed tissue-engineered skin for transplant; bladders grown from a patient’s own cells; and tissues grown to repair ailing hearts or failing knees.” Gottlieb warned that with the good comes the bad, as shady companies opening stem cell “clinics” are already opening across the US. Gottlieb added, “The rapid growth and promise of this field has increasingly sowed the ground for the entry of some unscrupulous actors, who have opportunistically seized on the clinical potential of regenerative medicine to make deceptive claims to patients about unproven and, in some cases, dangerous products.” As such, Gottlieb said the FDA is introducing a new “regulatory framework” aimed at encouraging legitimate development of regenerative therapies that do work.

FDA APPROVES SUNITINIB FOR ADJUVANT TREATMENT FOR RECURRENT KIDNEY CANCER. [Reuters](#) (11/16) reports the FDA on Thursday “approved the use of Pfizer Inc’s cancer drug Sutent” (sunitinib) “to help prevent kidney cancer from returning following surgical removal of a kidney.” The drug was approved in 2006 “for patients with gastrointestinal stromal tumors and advanced kidney cancer,” and it also has been “approved for patients with a certain type of pancreatic cancer.” The expanded approval allows Pfizer to market the drug as the first treatment for “patients who have already had surgery to remove a kidney to reduce the risk of the cancer returning.”

[Medscape](#) (11/16, Mulcahy, 226K) reports Richard , MD, acting director of the Office of Hematology and Oncology Products in the FDA’s Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, said in a press statement: “This is the first adjuvant treatment approved for patients with renal cell carcinoma, which is significant because patients with this disease who have a nephrectomy are often at high risk of the cancer returning.”

CONGRESS PASSES BILL TO SPEED FDA REVIEWS FOR MILITARY EMERGENCIES. The [AP](#) (11/16) reports Congress passed a bipartisan fix in the defense spending bill “which would have allowed the Pentagon to unilaterally clear medical products for soldiers in emergency situations. That change would have upended nearly 100 years of precedent entrusting such reviews to the FDA.” The compromise creates a way “to expedite FDA reviews” of medical products “for use during military emergencies.”

[The Hill](#) (11/16, Kheel, 1.68M) reports the FDA and its allies in Congress had argued language the National Defense Authorization Act “could open troops up to more danger because the approval process was not as rigorous as the FDA’s. They also argued the language was too broad and could allow the Pentagon to approve a range of treatments not directly related to battle.”

OPINION: FDA SHOULD BAN MINT-FLAVORED CIGARETTES. Ebony Bellamy writes for the [Huffington Post](#) (11/16, 5.74M) that mint-flavored menthol cigarettes “are not only easier to start” smoking “but are more addictive and harder to quit.” Bellamy writes that with “every other flavored cigarette being banned years ago because of how they appealed to young, first-time smokers,...menthols should have gotten the boot too, but the FDA missed the opportunity to ban menthols in 2011.” Bellamy adds that DoSomething.org has teamed up with Truth to create the #MyBigRegret campaign calling on the FDA to ban menthols.

INTERNATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH BODY FACING LEGAL PUSHBACK OVER GLYPHOSATE CARCINOGEN CLAIMS. [Fox News](#) (11/16, Russell, 12.87M) reports on its website that the United Nations’ International Agency for Research on Cancer faces a “legal showdown” over its classification of glyphosate, the leading chemical ingredient in Monsanto’s Roundup weed killer, as being “probably carcinogenic to humans,” claims which Fox says “have raised concerns about selective suppression of documents that counter the public conclusions of the French-based agency.” The piece says that also of concern are potential “conflicts of interest among the agency’s selected experts in the herbicide case,” saying that, for example, Christopher Portier – considered an “Environmental Health Consultant” in the IARC review of glyphosate – previously directed “the environmental toxicology program at the U.S. National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences” and “received around \$150,000 from the law firms for his consulting role.” The piece adds that a “long-unpublished update of a study by the U.S. National Cancer Institute, deemed the most thorough-going examination ever done of the herbicide’s medical effects, appeared in the Institute’s ‘Journal’ earlier this month: it found that the active ingredient known as glyphosate was ‘not statistically significantly associated with cancer.’” The piece also says the study has faced scrutiny “since a National Cancer Institute official who worked on the study subsequently chaired the IARC review of glysohate.”

PSYCHIATRIST TURNS SON’S TRAGEDY INTO A TRIUMPH FOR ADDICTION RESEARCH. [U.S. News & World Report](#) (11/17, Newman, 1.73M) discusses the Jacob P. Waletzky Award, which honors the 29 year-old son of Dr. Jeremy Waletzky who died of cocaine-induced cardiac arrhythmia, and “offers a \$25,000 prize to a young scientist within 15 years of his or her Ph.D or M.D. degree whose individual research provides critical new insights into drug addiction and the addicted brain.” The National Institute on Drug Abuse Intramural Research Program hosted a ceremony in honor of Waletzky and his efforts to promote the understanding of addiction. Dr. Antonello Bonci, now the scientific director for the National Institute on Drug Abuse, won the award in 2004 and presented Dr. Waletzky with “a lifetime achievement award for his commitment to young scientists’ research into addiction.” Yavin Shaham, winner of the 2006 award, said, “I received the award a few years after receiving tenure at NIH, and the award was very important to me and my lab people as it indicated to us that we are conducting research that makes an impact on the addiction field.”

OP-ED DECRIES HOUSE BILL TAXING TUITION WAIVERS. In a [New York Times](#) (11/16, Rousseau, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) op-ed, Erin Rousseau, a PhD student in the Harvard-MIT Program in Health Sciences and Technology, writes that a tax bill passed by Republicans in the US House “would devastate graduate research in the United States” by taxing tuition waivers for graduate students. Rousseau argues that this “would make meeting living expenses nearly impossible, barring all but the wealthiest students from pursuing a Ph.D,” and “decimate American competitiveness.” Rousseau adds, “Every dollar of basic research funded by the National Institutes of Health, for example, leads to a \$1.70 output from biotechnology industries,” saying the NIH “reports that the average American life span has increased by 30

years, in part, because of a better understanding of human health."

RESEARCHERS DEVELOPING "REFINED" METHODS TO PREDICT RISK OF PSYCHOSIS.

[Science Magazine](#) (11/16, Couzin-Frankel, 399K) reports new research has "refined" brain specialists' ability to predict a person's risk of psychosis, "a defining feature of schizophrenia," allowing them to identify "subtle signs in some children and more vivid precursors in late adolescence." The piece says some tests are "up and running, ranging from cognitive therapies to pregnancy supplements for the fetal brain to psychiatric drugs." The story quotes as Robert Heinssen of the National Institute of Mental Health saying that researchers beginning testing in the 1980s decided that "we ought to get as close as we possibly can to the onset of the illness," usually at the instance of a psychotic break. Heinssen added that physicians were surprised to learn that in many cases "people began experiencing changes in cognition, behavior, and perception for months or years" before psychosis developed. He added, "That led to this idea that there's an emerging risk state that precedes" schizophrenia.

RESEARCHERS CHRONICLE HISTORY OF NIH'S PREPRINT SYSTEM. [STAT](#) (11/16, Begley, 43K) reports on the history of preprint paper distribution, saying the National Institutes of Health in 1961 began "distributing unpublished scientific papers, or preprints, to a handpicked group of leading researchers" in an effort to "speed the dissemination of potentially important advances," although it "was met with such hostility from some eminent biologists and journals – one called the papers 'shoddy merchandise' – that it was shut down after just six years, a historian [reported](#) on Thursday in PLOS Biology." The piece says NIH's initiative commenced when "Errett Albritton, then 70, dreamed up 'Information Exchange Groups'" in which the NIH made and distributed copies of preprint papers to "members of the relevant specialty group." The piece adds that the American Association of Immunologists considered the NIH's practice "improper," saying the preprints might "ultimately supersede" published papers.

TECHNOLOGY MUST BE UPDATED TO FULFILL EVOLVING NEEDS OF PRECISION MEDICINE, EXPERTS SAY.

[Healthcare IT News](#) (11/16, Morse, 5K) reports commentary from healthcare industry and science leaders and experts on designing and introducing technological advances into precision medicine to ensure the sector can "compete against other businesses that are frankly better at zooming in on consumers' needs." In discussing the progress researchers have made in genomics, Eric Green, MD, director of the National Human Genome Research Institute, explained that researchers have three decades of experience in the field, adding that nearly 20 percent of all genome sequencing is performed through routine healthcare. He predicted that figure will rise to 80 percent in the future.

Health Reform:

SEN. BLUMENTHAL SAYS HOUSE TAX BILL WILL NOT PASS IN SENATE. [The Hill](#) (11/16, Delk, 1.68M) reports in its "Briefing Room" blog that Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) said Thursday that the GOP tax plan passed by the House of Representatives is "dead on arrival" in the Senate. He told CNN, "There is a long and very bumpy road ahead. In fact, I'm inclined to say that the House bill is dead on arrival because the Senate Republican leadership wants to turn this tax bill, in effect, into a health-care bill." Blumenthal cast doubt on the Senate's version of the bill, which includes repeal of the ACA's individual mandate, saying, "I think in its present form it will not pass, but – and here's a big but – only if there is activism and energy from the opponents."

CONGRESSIONAL TAX BILLS HAVE HEALTHCARE IMPLICATIONS.

[Bloomberg News](#) (11/16, Olorunnipa, Edney, 4.52M) reports that the "Republican tax plans are suddenly looking a lot more like health-care bills," as the House proposal would cancel a deduction for families that incur large medical expenses and the Senate plan includes repeal of the ACA's individual mandate. Bloomberg adds that advocacy groups such as the AARP and the American Cancer Society have spotlighted the medical-expense deduction, and Rep. Walter Jones (R-NC) said that he intends to vote against the bill because of it, saying, "There are a lot of seniors in my district and this is life and death for them." In the Senate, Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) is quoted, "You

don't fix the health insurance system by throwing it into a tax bill and causing premiums to go up 10 percent," referring to the CBO's estimate on increases caused by the repeal of the individual mandate.

COLLINS' SUPPORT FOR SENATE'S TAX REFORM BILL IN DOUBT BECAUSE OF PROVISION TO REPEAL ACA'S INDIVIDUAL MANDATE. The [Bangor \(ME\) Daily News](#) (11/16, Shepherd, 162K) reports that Senate Republicans have included a provision to repeal the Affordable Care Act's individual mandate in their tax reform bill, and Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME) "doesn't like that." The article adds that Collins "isn't saying that'll make her vote against tax reform (yet), but it makes the path toward 'yes' harder." The piece mentions that earlier this year, Collins was one of the GOP senators whose opposition derailed two attempts to repeal the ACA.

WYDEN SAYS PROVISION TO REPEAL ACA'S INDIVIDUAL MANDATE IS GENERATING OPPOSITION TO SENATE TAX BILL. The [Washington Examiner](#) (11/16, King, 465K) reports that on Thursday, Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR) said the provision to repeal the ACA's individual mandate "is already creating more opposition to the tax bill around the country." He stated, "Now that they have made this a healthcare issue, I can tell you we are hearing from grassroots groups all over this country."

IRS BEGINS ENFORCING ACA'S EMPLOYER MANDATE. The [New York Times](#) (11/16, Cowley, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that as the GOP and the Trump Administration make efforts to repeal the ACA, the IRS has started, "for the first time, to enforce one of the law's most polarizing provisions: the employer mandate." The article says the IRS will soon send letters to thousands of businesses – "many of them small or midsize" – indicating that "they owe the government money because they failed to offer their workers qualifying health insurance." Under the ACA, companies with 50 or more workers must "offer their employees affordable insurance or pay stiff tax penalties." The first set of letters will be sent to businesses which failed to meet this requirement in 2015. The delay in the notification is due to the fact that the IRS was building its compliance systems.

POLL FINDS MAJORITY BLAME TRUMP, REPUBLICANS FOR ACA PROBLEMS. [The Hill](#) (11/17, Weixel, 1.68M) reports that a Kaiser Family Foundation poll found that over 60 percent of the 1,201 respondents believe that President Trump and congressional Republicans are "responsible for any and all future problems with ObamaCare." The poll found a "distinct partisan divide" on several questions, such as while most Democrats blame Trump if marketplace plan enrollment is down this year, Republicans cast blame on the Obama Administration. The poll also found that a majority of Republicans trust President Trump "to do what's best for the country with regards to health care," but "the majority of the public" does not trust him.

SURVEY: A THIRD OF AMERICANS SAY THEY'RE UNAWARE OF ACA OPEN ENROLLMENT. [Kaiser Health News](#) (11/17, Galewitz) reports a Kaiser Family Foundation survey found that nearly a third of Americans "said they had not heard anything about the sign-up period for individuals who buy health plans on their own" under the Affordable Care Act, now in its fifth open enrollment season. In addition, nearly a third of uninsured people reported being unaware of open enrollment. The article discusses the shortening of sign-up period by the Trump Administration. The survey also found that 45 percent of all respondents and "52 percent who said they were uninsured said they have heard less about open enrollment this year compared to previous years."

NUMBER OF NEW CUSTOMERS ENROLLING IN COVERED CALIFORNIA PLANS ROSE BY 23%, DATA INDICATE. The [San Francisco Chronicle](#) (11/16, Ho, 3.31M) reports that the number of new customers who signed up for ACA plans through California's exchange, called Covered California, rose by 23 percent during the first two weeks of the open enrollment period, according to officials. Data show some "48,000 new customers signed up for subsidized health plans between Nov. 1 and Nov. 14 – up from 39,000 during the same period in 2016." The figures for those who renewed their coverage are not yet available.

The [Sacramento \(CA\) Bee](#) (11/16, Anderson, 349K) reports that Peter V. Lee, executive director of the exchange, said, "Covered California is off to another positive start as consumers take advantage of the lower prices being offered this year to buy quality health care coverage. ... While we are encouraged by these early results, we will continue to work hard to get the word out so consumers know they have until Jan. 31 to sign up for coverage."

WASHINGTON STATE'S ACA EXCHANGE SUED FOR ALLEGEDLY DISCRIMINATING AGAINST PREGNANT, EPILEPTIC EMPLOYEE. The [Tacoma \(WA\) News Tribune](#) (11/16, Krell, 212K) reports that Mayloni King, of Tacoma, who was "fired by the Washington Health Benefit Exchange, has sued the organization, alleging she was discriminated against for being pregnant and epileptic." King argues in the suit that "she had been a productive employee, and that managers treated her in a manner that violated state and federal law, including the Americans with Disabilities Act."

NEVADA'S ACA EXCHANGE AGAIN MULLING PLANS TO RUN ITS OWN ENROLLMENT SITE. The [Las Vegas Sun](#) (11/16, Gonzalez, 204K) reports that Nevada's ACA exchange is again considering the option to "run its own enrollment site, a move off the healthcare.gov platform that could save the state millions of dollars." The article adds that the Silver State Health Exchange intends "to issue a request for information in December, and will likely issue a request for proposal in March, said Heather Korbolic, the agency's executive director." She explained that "the healthcare.gov platform limits the exchange's access to information and how much time customers can spend shopping for plans."

The [AP](#) (11/16) also covers the story.

VIRGINIA COUNTY HAS HIGHEST ACA PREMIUMS IN THE US, ANALYSIS INDICATES. The [Washington Post](#) (11/16, Itkowitz, 10.38M) reports, "Monthly health-care insurance premiums increased all over America this year, but nowhere as dramatically as in Charlottesville," Virginia, according to a new analysis conducted by the Kaiser Family Foundation. Data indicate many residents of the area who began shopping for ACA plans on November 1 found that their premiums would be three times as high for 2018 as they were for 2017. The article says people who are self-employed are the hardest hit because they earn too much to qualify for federal subsidies, and therefore must pay full premiums.

The [New York Times](#) (11/16, Pear, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that with the ACA enrollment season underway, "consumers are desperately weighing their options, dismayed at the choices they have...and convinced that political forces in Washington are toying with their health and well-being." In Charlottesville, consumers found that "only five plans were available, and for a family of four with parents in their mid-30s, the cheapest plan went typically for more than \$2,400 a month, nearly \$30,000 a year." One said, "I believe in the Affordable Care Act; it worked for me under the Obama Administration. But it's not working as it was supposed to. It's being sabotaged, and I feel like a pawn."

ENROLLMENT ON COLORADO'S HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE UP 33 PERCENT SO FAR THIS YEAR. The [Colorado Springs \(CO\) Gazette](#) (11/16, Rodgers, 175K) reports Connect for Health Colorado announced Thursday that enrollment on the state's healthcare exchange are up 33 percent over last year, totaling 22,650 customers from November 1 through 15. Spokesman Luke Clarke observes, "It's very good – it's very encouraging. ... But I hope to keep up this pace all the way through."

WPOST FACT CHECKER ASSESSES GOP CLAIMS ON ACA INDIVIDUAL MANDATE PENALTY. Writing for the [Washington Post](#) (11/17, Lewis, 10.38M) "Fact Checker," Nicole Lewis evaluates Sen. John Cornyn's (R-TX) claim that the individual mandate is a "tax on poor Americans" and that "Right now, about half of the people that pay the penalty under the individual mandate are people who make \$25,000 or less." The Post scores it at "Two Pinocchios." The

piece explains that 42 percent of the 15 million who paid a fine in 2014 or 2015 had an adjusted gross income (AGI) of less than \$25,000, however, only 38 percent of the 6.7 million who paid the penalty in 2015 fit that category. The Post says that "the bulk of the fines paid are paid by people with AGI above \$25,000" and there are millions of tax returns with no information on health insurance, which could skew the results if known. As a result, Cornyn's claim is "an incomplete statistic that lacks significant context."

CENTENE ONE OF A FEW INSURERS WHICH HAVE PROFITED FROM ACA. [Bloomberg News](#) (11/16, Gruley, Tracer, Recht, 4.52M) reports that as larger insurers exit ACA marketplaces, "Centene Corp., a relatively obscure but swiftly growing insurer based in suburban St. Louis," is stepping in. The article says Centene has "moved cautiously into the ACA market." In Georgia, for instance, when Anthem Inc. Blue Cross Blue Shield announced it was departing, "Centene told state regulators it would expand into 20 more counties, including 17 in rural southwest Georgia that are home to some of the poorest, unhealthiest people in the U.S." It also intends to "offer ACA policies next year across Nevada," and has suggested selling "plans in Indiana, Missouri, and Ohio counties that otherwise would have gone without." In addition, it will "sell plans next year in new areas in Florida, Kansas, Texas, and Washington state and" will soon become the only ACA option in Mississippi. The article says Centene is the "rare" insurer which has actually "made a fortune from" the ACA.

OSCAR HEALTH POSTS SMALLER LOSS PRIOR TO ACA MARKET ENTRY. Contributor Bruce Japsen writes in a [Forbes](#) (11/16, 5.11M) piece that Oscar Health, a startup, "said its financial losses are narrowing ahead of a major expansion into small business coverage and into new markets selling individual products under the Affordable Care Act." On Thursday, the company posted a loss of \$96 million for the third quarter, which was an improvement compared to its loss of \$128 million a year ago. Japsen says, "Given losses and the sicker-than-expected population of patients signing up for coverage, Oscar's improving underwriting profits are significant to the company's future success."

MORE THAN HALF OF ADOLESCENTS SKIP REGULAR PHYSICAL EXAMS DESPITE ACA PROTECTIONS. [Kaiser Health News](#) (11/17, Andrews) reports that even though the Affordable Care Act required health insurers to cover well-child visits at no charge, "fewer than half of kids ages 10 to 17 were getting routine annual physical exams" both before and after the ACA went into effect, according to a [study](#) published in JAMA Pediatrics. The researchers found that 41 percent of children aged 10 to 17 had a well-visit in the past year when the ACA passed in 2010, and in 2011, the rate increased to 48 percent. The article explains that the ACA required most plans to cover preventive services identified by "the Bright Futures project guidelines, sponsored by the American Academy of Pediatrics and supported by the federal government, and by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, an independent group of medical experts that evaluates the evidence for clinical care."

COMMENTARY CONSIDERS HEALTH REFORM. Several outlets offer opinions on health reform.

Paige Winfield Cunningham writes in the [Washington Post](#) (11/16, 10.38M) "The Health 202" that many people are surprised at the high rate of ACA sign-ups in the first two weeks of the open enrollment season, and "the Trump administration is scratching its head, too." She says CMS officials "seem unsure of exactly why so many Americans are flocking to buy health plans on Healthcare.gov despite spending a lot less money this year on advertising and outreach, several insurance brokers who visited the agency Tuesday told me."

Michael A. Cohen writes in the [Boston Globe](#) (11/16, 969K) that "cutting health insurance for millions of Americans in order to pay for a tax cut that will primarily benefit big business is officially The. Most. Republican. Thing. Ever." Cohen adds that the "real head-scratcher" is "why would Republicans want to restart a fight over health care" in their tax bills. The column discusses the prior failures to repeal the Affordable Care Act and the recent elections in Virginia and New

Jersey where voters said healthcare was the “number one concern.” Cohen says, “At this point it seems Republicans have concluded that they simply must pass something – anything on taxes – to have any hope of being competitive in midterm elections in 2018.”

Siraj Hashmi writes in a [Washington Examiner](#) (11/16, 465K) op-ed that congressional Republicans seem unable to stop attempts to repeal the Affordable Care Act. Hashmi says that earlier this week, Senate Republicans decided to include a provision to repeal the ACA’s individual mandate in their tax reform bill. Hashmi argues that they “are willing to risk it all to make up for a horrendous legislative year in which repeal and replace efforts on Obamacare failed to get the votes the first time in the House, which it then passed, and then failed multiple times in the Senate.” But this move ensures that “the tax reform bill will surely fail.”

The [South Florida Sun Sentinel](#) (11/16, 530K) says in an editorial that Senate Republicans have turned their tax reform bill into another effort to repeal the ACA by adding a provision to end the healthcare law’s individual mandate. The paper argues that with one stroke, GOP senators have “turned a fiscally irresponsible tax plan into a monumentally unwise piece of social policy that would do much more than widen the deficit. If passed, it would be the most significant health-care shift since the 2010 Affordable Care Act – and in a decidedly negative direction.”

Opioid News:

CMS PROPOSES MEDICARE RULES ON OPIOIDS, DRUG COSTS. [Reuters](#) (11/16, Beasley) reports that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services proposed changes to Medicare drug plans which included limits on opioid prescriptions. Reuters says, “To help combat overprescription and abuse of addictive painkillers, the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) said it was considering allowing drug coverage plans to require certain beneficiaries to obtain prescriptions for opioids only from selected prescribers or pharmacies.” CMS also sought more information on how to apply “discounts drug companies negotiate with health plans to the price beneficiaries pay at the pharmacy counter.” The proposed changes also include measures to encourage use of “biosimilar” drugs.

SENATORS AIM TO TARGET HHS FUNDS FOR STATES HIT HARD BY OPIOID OVERDOSES. The [Daily Caller](#) (11/16, Birr, 521K) reports the senators of West Virginia and New Hampshire “are pushing legislation that would give targeted federal funding to states with the highest mortality rates from opioids.” The group filed the proposal Thursday which would require HHS’ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) “to change its policy on how federal funds are allocated to states for addiction treatment.” It would “require SAMHSA to distribute funds based on state mortality rates and their access to treatment services, prioritizing the needs of states with highest rates of overdose deaths.”

INSYS FOUNDER PLEADS NOT GUILTY TO OPIOID BRIBE SCHEME. [Reuters](#) (11/16, Raymond) reports Insys Therapeutics founder and former CEO John Kapoor “pleaded not guilty to charges that he participated in a scheme to bribe doctors to prescribe a fentanyl-based spray intended for cancer patients.” Lawyers for Kapoor called the allegations “thin, vague and conclusory.” Reuters adds that the charges come as authorities fight an opioid addiction epidemic the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says led to more than 33,000 deaths in 2015.

The [AP](#) (11/16) also reports.

YOUNG RAPPER’S DEATH PROMPTS CONVERSATION ABOUT ADDICTION. On its website, [CNN](#) (11/16, Zaru, 33.59M) reports the death of rapper Lil Peep has “ignited a new conversation about mental health and the opioid epidemic in America.” The rapper died Wednesday after he was found unresponsive in his tour bus in what police suspect was a Xanax overdose. CNN reports, “According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than two million Americans have become dependent on or abused prescription pain pills and street drugs.” Los Angeles hip-hop artist Sirah tweeted, “Damn Lil peep breaking my heart. RIP baby boy. This drug

culture depression wave needs to be treated not glorified.”

OPIOID EPIDEMIC COST US ECONOMY \$95 BILLION IN 2016, REPORTS FINDS. [Modern Healthcare](#) (11/16, Castelluci, Subscription Publication, 238K) reports that according to an [analysis](#) (PDF) from Altarum, “the opioid crisis cost the economy \$95 billion in 2016, with \$21.4 billion spent on healthcare services to treat patients who suffer from opioid abuse.” The piece says \$43.2 billion came from losses in the workforce due to opioid-related deaths. “Putting a dollar value on (the epidemic) can be an impetus for more action,” said Corwin Rhyen, lead author of the report and senior analyst at Altarum.

OPIOID EPIDEMIC HELPING TO SPREAD HEPATITIS C IN GEORGIA. The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (11/16, Hart, 1.16M) reports that Georgia’s level of hepatitis C infection has surpassed 14,000 victims in one year for the first time, likely driven by heroin needles, according to the state epidemiologist. Dr. Cherie Drenzek told a study committee in the Georgia House of Representatives on Thursday, “It leads us to believe that the ongoing heroin and opioid epidemics are related to hepatitis C as well.” Any committee recommendations are to be issued by Dec. 1, while the state Senate will prepare its own recommendations.

UTAH HOUSE SPEAKER PRESSES STATE’S COUNTIES TO SUE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY OVER OPIOID CRISIS. The [Salt Lake \(UT\) Tribune](#) (11/17, Dobner, 337K) reports Utah House Speaker Greg Hughes is encouraging counties statewide “to bring lawsuits to hold big drug companies accountable for the damage the opioid crisis has inflicted on Utahns.” In a Thursday speech to government leaders gathered for the Utah Association of Counties annual conference, Hughes “publicly championed legal action against the \$11 billion pharmaceutical industry, which he said lied to consumers and physicians in marketing the painkillers as ‘rarely addictive.’”

COMMENTARY ON OPIOID CRISIS. Commentators weigh in on the opioid epidemic. The [Wall Street Journal](#)’s (11/16, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) Jason Bellini spotlights medication-assisted treatment in a 12-minute video segment. An accompanying piece explains that MAT is seen as among the most effective ways to treat addicts but it is controversial and not broadly available in rural counties.

Former Republican Rep. Dr. Philip Gingrey of Georgia writes for [The Hill](#) (11/16, 1.68M) that public health emergency declarations under the Public Health Service Act “were designed to deal with infectious diseases, not addiction and substance abuse disorders.” He adds that amid the uncertainty surrounding the impact of the declaration, what is clear is that it lacks funding, because the “Public Health Emergency Fund at HHS amounts to a grand total of \$57,000,” and lacks “a clear scope and duration.” Gingrey writes that a “consensus is growing that expansion of Medicaid would provide the access to addiction treatment so many Americans desperately need and deserve.”

Henry C. Eickelberg, a senior fellow of the American Health Policy Institute, writes for [The Hill](#) (11/16, 1.68M) that dealing with the opioid epidemic will require solutions from both the public and private sectors. Eickelberg highlights a American Health Policy Institute paper on the “Chief Human Resources Officers’ response to prescription drug use among the workforce,” which recommends that employers “advertise that the health plans they offer cover medical, behavioral, and pharmaceutical treatments for substance abuse.” Eickelberg also writes that “employers should ensure that their health plans use data analytics to identify physicians with a practice of excessive dosing of opioids, excessive duration of opioids.”

Former president of the American Academy of Pain Medicine Dr. Lynn R. Webster writes for [The Hill](#) (11/16, 1.68M) that “the media and policymakers are mistaken when they decry an opioid crisis rather than a drug crisis.” Webster highlights incorrect media misreporting of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data predicting opioid overdose deaths to top 64,000 in 2016, rather than drug-related deaths. Webster writes that “there is additional confusion associated with

opioid painkillers and illicit opioids," and argues that while prescription painkillers contribute to the opioid crisis, "it is impossible to determine the extent to which they are involved."

Healthcare News:

HEALTHCARE COSTS SQUEEZE MIDDLE-INCOME AMERICANS, EXPERTS SAY. [TIME](#) (11/16, Edwards, 5.85M) reports on "one of the most crushing failures of the U.S. health system: there's no good way to pay for extended long-term care," saying that since neither Medicare nor private health plans cover it, most people pay "roughly \$80,000 out of pocket, the average annual cost for a shared room at a skilled nursing facility." The article includes commentary from experts who discuss the impact the US' "rickety" elder care system on the growing demographic of older Americans. The piece says "47% of men and 58% of women who are retirement age or older will experience a need for long-term care in the future, according to a February 2016 study by the Department of Health and Human Services."

SEXUALLY ASSAULTED NUN UNABLE TO PRESS CHARGES DUE TO NURSING HOME ARBITRATION AGREEMENT. [TIME](#) (11/16, Edwards, 5.85M) reports on the story of Sister Irene Morissette, a nun with dementia who said she was raped at her assisted living facility and was unable to press charges against the alleged assailant because she signed a pre-dispute binding arbitration agreement when she became a resident, by which she forfeit "right to trial by jury and any right to bring a civil suit against Chateau Vestavia or its then parent company, Trinity Lifestyles Management, for any reason and at any time in the future." The piece adds that her cognitive impairment could have impacted whether she "understood what she had agreed to when she signed the admissions contract back in 2011."

COLUMN LAMENTS CHALLENGES OF FINDING NURSING HOME FOR FATHER WITH DEMENTIA. Susanna Schrobsdorff writes in her column in [TIME](#) (11/16, 5.85M) about her experiences searching for a nursing home for her father, who has dementia, saying that when he moved into an assisted living facility she became aware of the "cruel math you have to do when choosing a nursing home or assisted-living residence." Schrobsdorff summarizes that math as "personal savings plus Medicare, minus the level of disability, multiplied by the rate of decline" and discusses the difficulties of moving him from the assisted living facility to a nursing home, adding that she and her family experienced "dark" periods due to the challenges.

CIGNA FINED \$2 MILLION FOR ALLEGED NEW YORK INSURANCE LAW VIOLATION. The [Hartford \(CT\) Business Journal](#) (11/16, Daddona, 22K) reports that "Cigna has agreed to pay a \$2 million fine to the state of New York after being accused of violating that state's insurance law." According to the state, the insurer "illegally sold stop-loss insurance and unapproved health insurance policies that would otherwise have been part of New York's small-group market." In a statement, Cigna said, "Our objective is to improve the health and health care affordability in the communities we serve. We have agreed with the New York Department of Financial Services to resolve this matter and would welcome the opportunity to work with the Department and insurers in developing industry guidance regarding the scope of New York's small group law in order to ensure a level, competitive playing field."

JUDGE NARROWS LAWSUIT'S CHALLENGES TO SOME LOUISIANA ABORTION LAWS. The [AP](#) (11/16, McConnaughey) reports a federal judge excluded one Louisiana abortion law from a lawsuit filed by an abortion clinic and also moved to narrow challenges to four other laws. The excluded law restricts donation of fetal tissue. Attorney Zoe Levine of the Center for Reproductive Rights, "which had sued against all seven laws passed last year in the state," said Thursday challenges to the other six statutes are moving forward.

TEXAS INCREASE FUNDING FOR ALTERNATIVES TO ABORTION PROGRAM. The [Texas Tribune](#) (11/16, Choi, 13K) reports that the Texas Legislature's two-year budget "includes \$20 million more in funding for a controversial program that seeks to discourage women from getting abortions in the state," raising total funding to \$38 million. Alternatives to Abortion contractors

offer services such as “financial counseling and support groups for new parents, as well as children’s items such as car seats and infant formula.” The Texas Health and Human Services Commission “said in a report it plans to use the funding to extend services for new parents until the child’s third birthday and connect pregnant mothers to financial assistance programs such as Medicaid, CHIP and food stamps.”

Human Services News:

MINNESOTA SENATOR DECRIES LACK OF INVESTIGATIONS INTO ELDER ABUSE. The [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) (11/15, Serres, 1.27M) reports Sen. Karin Housley, chairwoman of the Minnesota Senate Aging and Long-Term Care Policy committee, recently vowed to introduce a set of reforms to expand the state’s ability to investigate abuse against older residents. She “said the state needs to act swiftly to address what she termed ‘an emergency situation’ unfolding in senior care homes across the state,” adding, “When you hear these horrific stories of abuse, and hear reports of families waiting years for some resolution to an investigation, you realize that we need more resources in this area.”

FAMILY LEAVE TAX CREDIT ADDED TO LATEST SENATE GOP TAX BILL. [The Hill](#) (11/16, Wheeler, 1.68M) reports Senate Republicans “have added a tax credit to a modified version of the Senate tax bill, which aims to incentivize businesses to offer paid family and medical leave.” Senate Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-UT) included a proposal from Sen. Deb Fischer (R-NB) “to give businesses offering full-time employees at least two weeks of paid family and medical leave each year a general business credit equal to 12.5 percent of the amount of wages they pay an employee,” scalable up to 25 percent depending on employer contribution. Advocates for working families say the proposal would largely be going to companies already offering paid leave.

Medicare:

GOP, TRUMP ACCUSED OF PLANNING TO CUT MEDICARE, SOCIAL SECURITY AFTER TAX REFORM. Bruce Bartlett writes in the [Washington Post](#) (11/16, 10.38M) “Post Everything” blog that the GOP and President Trump “want Americans to think that their proposed tax legislation is all about increasing economic growth.” He argues, however, that “the stealth goal of GOP tax cuts is to start down the path toward gutting the New Deal and the Great Society – and if tax cuts pass, they might get away with it.” Bartlett warns that should “Social Security and Medicare cuts follow tax cuts, on net, even those who would get a tiny tax cut will be much worse off when the spending cuts are factored in.”

COMPLICATIONS IN QUALIFYING FOR MEDICARE “OBSERVATION” STATUS LEAVE SOME OLDER ADULTS WITH HIGH COSTS. [CBS News](#) (11/16, Konrad, 4.42M) reports a “common and often misunderstood Medicare billing policy” often leaves older adults paying high costs for hospital observation. The piece says that to qualify for Medicare benefits paying for prescribed follow-up treatment specialized care SNFs, “patients must have previously stayed in a hospital for three days, not counting the day of discharge,” although they must be “considered an outpatient” and placed under “observation” status. The piece features recommendations on how to ensure one qualifies for outpatient observation status to receive the benefit.

LAWMAKERS INTRODUCE BILL TO STOP CUT TO MEDICARE DRUG REIMBURSEMENTS. [STAT](#) (11/16, Silverman, 43K) reports in “Pharmalot” that “a group of lawmakers introduced a bipartisan bill to reverse a Trump administration rule that would cut Medicare reimbursement for medicines purchased under the federal 340B Drug Discount Program, which was designed to boost revenues for hospitals that primarily serve low-income patients.” The proposed cut is projected “to save Medicare and its beneficiaries about \$1.6 billion” in 2018. The bipartisan group of lawmakers argues, however, that cutting reimbursement is a “misguided policy” and “would limit the ability of hospitals to serve vulnerable patients,” while not actually reducing drug costs.

The blog points out that the bipartisan measure was introduced three days after trade groups including the Association of American Medical Colleges and the American Hospital Association “filed a federal lawsuit in hopes of preventing the rule from taking effect.”

SURVEY SHOWS DENIALS STILL A RISK TO HOSPITAL REVENUE CYCLE

DEPARTMENTS. [Healthcare Finance News](#) (11/16, Lagasse, 93K) reports that hospitals’ revenue cycles continue to see increased “denial writeoffs, bad debt and inefficiencies revealed by their persistently high costs to collect.” The Advisory Board’s latest Revenue Cycle Survey found that a median 350-bed hospital lost \$3.5 million over the past four years in increased denial writeoffs. The survey further found that the success rates for Medicare and Medicare Advantage appeals rose from 50 to 64 percent. The piece also discusses the survey’s findings on the rates of successful denial appeals, net accounts receivable days, and bad debt.

CMS TO PAY MORE CASH TO HOSPITALS IMPACTED BY TWO-MIDNIGHT RULE. [Modern Healthcare](#) (11/16, Dickson, Subscription Publication, 238K) reports that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services posted a notice on its website announcing that the 67 hospitals “harmed under the CMS’ controversial two-midnight rule will receive a boost to their discharge payments over the next year.” The hospitals will receive an additional 0.2 percent payment on every discharge from June 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018, which “could amount to millions of dollars in additional funds.” The two midnight rule – where “the CMS directed federal auditors to consider short-term hospital stays as inpatient admissions if they span two midnights, even though they otherwise should have been billed as an outpatient observation visit” – was “scrapped” last year in light of litigation claiming that HHS exceeded its authority in enacting the rule.

MEDICARE REQUESTS COMMENTS ON WAYS TO CUT COSTS OF PART D DRUGS. [Kaiser Health News](#) (11/16, Tribble) reports that Medicare officials requested comments Thursday “on how to use discounts and rebates to help decrease what enrollees pay for prescriptions,” specifically, on how to “share the rebates and discounts that are negotiated by manufacturers, pharmacists and insurers” that are often kept out of public view. The request for public comment comes after CMS released a fact sheet “describing how the fees kept Medicare Part D and monthly premiums lower but translated to higher out-of-pocket spending by enrollees and increased costs to the program overall,” as well as a letter from Sen. Chuck Grassley (R) and 10 other senators calling for more transparency on fees.

Medicaid &CHIP:

STUDY SUGGESTS LOWER MEDICAID FEES LINKED TO DIFFICULTY GETTING PRIMARY CARE APPOINTMENTS. [Reuters](#) (11/16, Weinstock) reports researchers have found that as “the fees paid to healthcare providers by Medicaid go up, appointments with primary care doctors suddenly become more available to Medicaid beneficiaries – and the opposite happens when fees go down,” according to a [study](#) published in JAMA Internal Medicine. Reuters explains, “Researchers found that, overall, every \$10 change up or down in the Medicaid fees paid to providers led to a 1.7% change in the same direction in the proportion of patients on Medicaid who could secure an appointment with a new doctor.” The study involved 12,092 phone calls to physicians in ten states to request new-patient primary care appointments or an appointment for an urgent health issue.

OPINION: CLOCK IS TICKING ON CHIP FOR THOUSANDS OF WEST VIRGINIA KIDS.

Renate Pore, former director of the Governor’s Health Care Planning Commission and the Governor’s Cabinet on Children and Families, writes in the [Charleston \(WV\) Gazette-Mail](#) (11/16, 22K) that “the clock is ticking” for Congress to reauthorize the Children’s Health Insurance Program, which provides medical, dental, and vision care to “tens of thousands of West Virginia children.” Pore adds, “Children with CHIP and Medicaid have overall better health, better school attendance and greater productivity and success as adults.” The piece criticizes the House of Representatives who passed a bill that included “a 75 percent reduction to public health programs that support our local health departments and chronic disease prevention programs” and called

on the Senate to pass a “clean CHIP bill.”

ILLINOIS' ILLINICARE CUTS MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT RATES TO MEDICAL

SUPPLIERS. [Modern Healthcare](#) (11/16, Schorsch, Subscription Publication, 238K) reports that IlliniCare, a private insurer that is part of Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner's (R) Medicaid “managed-care overhaul,” announced that it is cutting reimbursement rates to durable medical suppliers by 50 percent. The cuts impact suppliers of equipment such as wheelchairs, oxygen tanks, and ventilators for low-income Illinoisans on Medicaid. Modern Healthcare adds that the cut “comes as the Medicaid managed care program goes through a massive transition” when the governor's overhaul is set to take effect on January 1.

NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMISSION URGES LEGISLATURE TO EXTEND, CHANGE MEDICAID

PROGRAM. In continuing coverage, the [New Hampshire Union Leader](#) (11/16, Solomon, 118K) reports that the New Hampshire commission charged with evaluating the future of the state's Medicaid expansion released its final report Wednesday calling for the program to continue for another five years, but also recommending changes. Instead of using funds to buy private health insurance on the individual marketplace, the commission recommended that the funds be paid to the managed care company that now handles traditional Medicaid enrollees. The commission said that the change to managed care in order to “reduce premium instability in the individual health insurance market ... and to remove the impact of the medically frail (Medicaid patients) on the individual market.”

HHS AUDIT FINDS IMPROPER MEDICAID PAYMENTS IN NORTH CAROLINA. The [Raleigh \(NC\) News & Observer](#) (11/16, Doran, 381K) reports that the Department of Health and Human Services released a report Thursday which found that “an error by state workers in charge of processing Medicaid claims led to an estimated \$63 million in improper Medicaid payments.” The report calculated that the federal government paid as much as \$63 million in improper Medicaid payments and recommended that North Carolina pay it back. The report says that the state disputes the findings and recommendations.

SAN DIEGO NURSING HOMES SETTLE KICKBACK SUITS. The [AP](#) (11/16) reports four San Diego-area nursing homes have agreed to settle claims that they paid kickbacks and submitted false Medicare and Medi-Cal bills. The US Attorney's office announced Thursday that the nursing homes agreed to pay up to \$6.9 million and that the first payments were made this month. The kickbacks included buying “gift cards, massages, sporting event tickets and even a cruise for employees of Scripps Mercy Hospital so they would refer patients to the homes.”

Health & Medical News:

PHYSICIANS POSTULATE INFANT'S DEATH STEMMED FROM MYOCARDITIS

FOLLOWING MARIJUANA CONSUMPTION. The [Washington Post](#) (11/17, Silverman, 10.38M) reports physicians recently published a study in the journal *Clinical Practice and Cases in Emergency Medicine* as a case report concerning the “seizure and death of an 11-month old after exposure to cannabis,” which the piece says has led to “headlines about ‘the first marijuana overdose death’ this week.” However, the researchers said they “are absolutely not saying that marijuana killed that child.” The piece adds “that the doctors simply observed this unusual sequence of events, documented it and alerted the medical community that it is worth studying a possible relationship between cannabis and the child's cause of death, myocarditis, or inflammation of the heart muscle.”

[USA Today](#) (11/16, Rittiman, 8.62M) reports that coverage from KUSA-TV says this “is the first news story in which either of the doctors publicly discussed the case that was published in a medical journal in March of this year.” The physicians said, “The only thing that we found was marijuana. High concentrations of marijuana in his blood.” They said the child “never really got better” before his heart stopped, breathing stopped, and he died. The article adds that the “National Institutes of Health says there is ‘insufficient evidence’ to link THC

[tetrahydrocannabinol] overdose to fatalities."

The [Washington Times](#) (11/16, Blake, 541K) reports the physicians wrote the case marks "the first reported pediatric death associated with cannabis exposure." The article details some of the controversy surrounding the study findings.

The [Columbus \(GA\) Ledger-Enquirer](#) (11/16, Berson, 134K) reports that according to "the National Institute on Drug Abuse, about 22 million Americans consume marijuana in any given month." The NIDA also reports that THC is the primary psychoactive ingredient in marijuana.

[Newsweek](#) (11/16, Lowe, 991K) reports the FDA says no deaths due to marijuana overdoses have been confirmed.

The [New York Daily News](#) (11/16, Burke, 3.61M) reports the child died in 2015 after being "rushed to the emergency room" following a seizure.

JURY ORDERS JOHNSON & JOHNSON'S DEPUY UNIT TO PAY \$247 MILLION OVER DEFECTIVE ARTIFICIAL HIPS. [Reuters](#) (11/16, Bellon) reports that on Thursday, a federal jury in Dallas ordered Johnson & Johnson and its DePuy Orthopaedics unit to pay a total of \$247 million to six New York residents who received DePuy's Pinnacle artificial hip implants. The jury determined "the metal-on-metal hip implants were defectively designed and that the companies failed to warn consumers about the risks."

[Bloomberg News](#) (11/16, Feeley, Korosec, 4.52M) reports that the award was for "\$79 million in actual damages and \$168 million in punitive damages." Bloomberg notes that "the number of lawsuits accusing J&J and DePuy of mishandling the metal-on-metal hips has grown by more than 13 percent over the past year, to 9,900, according to a regulatory filing." The device hasn't been sold since 2013, following a toughening of FDA regulations on artificial hips. In an emailed statement on Thursday, Johnson & Johnson officials said they acted "appropriately and responsibly" in developing and marketing the Pinnacle hips. DePuy spokesperson Stella Meirelles said, "We will immediately begin the appeal process and remain committed to the long-term defense of the allegations in these lawsuits." Also covering the story are [Law360](#) (11/16, Krochtengel, 16K) and the [Legal Examiner](#) (11/16, Malik).

NYTIMES COVERS ADVICE FOR UPCOMING COLD AND FLU SEASON. The [New York Times](#) (11/17, Haelle, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports on the best advice for handling cold and flu season. The article recommends getting the flu vaccine, even though its "effectiveness varies season to season, from 10 percent to 60 percent over the past decade, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention." Once you get sick, the nurses and physicians interviewed offered advice on hydration, using fever-reducers, saline drops for removing excess mucus in the nostrils, cold and sinus drugs, and cough drops. The article cites a Journal of the American Medical Association study which said honey may help with coughing, "Children ages 1 to 11 are recommended to have a half to one teaspoon, and adults and older children can have one to two teaspoons, or add it to tea."

INSPECTOR GENERAL INVESTIGATION FINDS COLORADO VA FACILITIES USED IMPROPER WAIT LISTS FOR VETERANS' MENTAL HEALTHCARE. The [AP](#) (11/16, Riccardi) reports investigators with the VA Office of Inspector General confirmed Thursday a whistleblower's claim that staff at the agency's Denver-area hospital "kept unauthorized lists instead of using the department's official wait list system." This system made it "impossible to know if veterans who needed referrals for group therapy and other mental health care were getting timely assistance, according to the report." The AP says the investigators claimed "the unofficial lists did not always identify the veteran or requested date of care, and they could not determine how many veterans were waiting to receive help and for how long, even with the help of staff at the facilities."

The [Denver Post](#) (11/16, Matthews, 817K) reports the investigation found the improper protocol occurred in three separate facilities: Denver, Golden and Colorado Springs. A lingering unknown is "the number of cases affected by the VA's improper record-keeping. The closest that investigators were able to come to that figure was the acknowledgment that there were 3,775 individual entries on the unofficial referral list for group therapy." According to the Post, the use of "off-the-books records by VA officials in Colorado recalls one of the biggest VA scandals in recent memory – the use of secret wait lists in Phoenix, where at least 35 veterans died while awaiting medical care."

The [Washington Times](#) (11/16, Boyer, 541K) also reports on this story.

HIGH COST OF GENE THERAPY SCRUTINIZED AS IT ENTERS US MARKET. [Reuters](#) (11/16, Hirschler) reports on the debate over the price of the first gene therapy for an inherited condition as it nears the US market. Spark Therapeutics, "whose Luxturna treatment has been recommended for U.S. approval, told investors last week there was a case for valuing it at more than \$1 million per patient, although it has yet to set an actual price." The US Institute for Clinical and Economic Review, however, argued this week "at a placeholder price of \$1,000,000, the high cost makes this unlikely to be a cost-effective intervention at commonly used cost-effectiveness thresholds." The ICER analysis "did concede Luxturna was likely to be more cost-effective for younger patients."

CALIFORNIA HEALTH OFFICIALS INVESTIGATE SOURCE OF LEGIONNAIRES' OUTBREAK BEYOND DISNEYLAND. The [Los Angeles Times](#) (11/16, Karlamangla, 4.49M) reports California health officials are investigating how four people in Orange County became sick with Legionnaires' disease in recent weeks despite not visiting Disneyland, where two cooling towers have been linked to the outbreak. The outbreak "has sickened a total of 15 people, two of whom have died. Eleven of those people visited Disneyland in September." The remaining four "just lived in or had visited Anaheim, suggesting there could be sources of infection not yet discovered." Anaheim city spokesman Mike Lyster "said officials had reviewed tests of bacteria levels in the city water supply prior to and since the outbreak and hadn't detected any issues."

The [AP](#) (11/16) reports water samples taken last week from the cooling towers at Disneyland "tested negative for the bacteria, officials at the theme park said Wednesday."

TOXIC ALGAE BECOMING A NATIONWIDE THREAT. The [AP](#) (11/16, Flesher, Kastanis) reports that toxic algae is spreading across "waterways from the Great Lakes to Chesapeake Bay, from the Snake River in Idaho to New York's Finger Lakes and reservoirs in California's Central Valley." Florida Gov. Rick Scott last year "declared a state of emergency and beaches were closed when algae blooms spread from Lake Okeechobee to nearby estuaries." Don Scavia, a University of Michigan environmental scientist, says toxic algae is a "big, pervasive threat that we as a society are not doing enough to solve." He warns, "If we increase the amount of toxic algae in our drinking water supply, it's going to put people's health at risk." An investigation from the AP underscores "what many experts consider a fatal flaw in government policy: Instead of ordering agriculture to stem the flood of nutrients, regulators seek voluntary cooperation, an approach not afforded other big polluters." The AP also says the CDC is currently developing a system for compiling data on algae-related illnesses.

WYOMING HEALTH DEPARTMENT SAYS GASTROINTESTINAL ILLNESSES CONNECTED. The [AP](#) (11/16) reports Wyoming Department of Health officials believe "six cases of gastrointestinal illness discovered this month in Fremont County are connected." The source of the outbreak has not yet been identified. Health Department spokeswoman Kim Deti "says the problem appears to be limited to daycare and preschool attendees, adding that there is no evidence at this time the illnesses are related to school meals."

FIRST CASE OF CEFTRIAXONE-RESISTANT GONORRHEA IDENTIFIED IN NORTH AMERICA. [STAT](#) (11/16, Branswell, 43K) reports that for the first time in North America, a strain

of gonorrhea that is resistant to the injectable antibiotic ceftriaxone has been identified in Quebec, underscoring "that the days of easy treatment of gonorrhea are numbered." Ceftriaxone is usually paired with a second antibiotic in pill form, azithromycin. STAT says the combination "is the last of the easy-to-administer, should-work-for-everyone antibiotic therapies available to treat gonorrhea, which has plowed its way through all the drugs in the medical armamentarium." Other instances of ceftriaxone-resistant gonorrhea have been diagnosed in Japan in 2015 and throughout Europe and Asia since.

ALZHEIMER'S EXPERTS ACKNOWLEDGE INCREASED VISIBILITY, CHALLENGES OF THE DISEASE. [The Hill](#) (11/16, Dixon, 1.68M) reports experts say there has been "increased visibility and progress on the underlying causes of" Alzheimer's. These "elements of progress include increased awareness from policymakers and the general public," resulting in new funding and less stigma. However, one prominent expert called for more of a grassroots movement to address the disease. "The reason why we have come close to defeating breast cancer, to a large extent, is because women around the world came together and said 'we have to do something,'" said Charbel Moussa, director for the Laboratory for Dementia and Parkinsonism at Georgetown Medical Center. "We need that for Alzheimer's."

EPA APPROVES EXPANSION OF ANTI-MOSQUITO SCHEME. [TIME](#) (11/16, Sifferlin, 5.85M) reports the EPA earlier this month "granted commercial approval for the company MosquitoMate to release its special male *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes, called ZAP mosquitoes, in 20 states and Washington DC." When the company "releases their ZAP male mosquitoes into the environment, the mosquitoes mate with wild females and pass on their" *Wolbachia* bacteria to their offspring. However, these offspring never hatch because "the *Wolbachia* interferes with the mosquitoes' parental chromosomes, causing the eggs to not develop." MosquitoMate trials in Kentucky, California and New York have so far "shown that the ZAP mosquitoes can reduce the overall mosquito population of a given release area by more than 80%."

FDA APPROVES HEMOPHILIA DRUG, INCLUDES STRONG WARNING. The [AP](#) (11/16, Johnson) reports the FDA on Thursday approved Hemlibra (emicizumab), the "first new treatment in nearly two decades to prevent internal bleeding in certain patients with hemophilia." The developer Genentech, a Roche subsidiary, said the list price will be about \$482,000 for the first year and slightly less after that. The FDA gave Hemlibra its "strongest level of warning because it can cause severe blood clots when patients are given a certain other bleeding treatment at the same time."

[Reuters](#) (11/16) reports the once-weekly injection was approved "for adults and pediatric patients with hemophilia A who have developed inhibitors, or resistance, to other treatments." Trials show Hemlibra "cut the bleed rate by 87 percent in patients who had developed resistance to standard treatment, compared with those who instead received so-called bypassing agents that are now standard therapy." According to Reuters, Roche is still "awaiting Phase III trial data on Hemlibra in adult patients who have not developed inhibitors," which, if successful, could expand the pool of patients eligible for the drug.

[Fierce Pharma](#) (11/16, Sagonowsky) reports that "consensus analyst estimates for Hemlibra are \$2 billion by 2025," but Jefferies analysts are "expecting much more from the drug over time. They're projecting \$5 billion in sales that year, saying the drug 'appears significantly underplayed' by the consensus figure."

FDA BACKS FRONTLINE OBINUTUZUMAB FOR FOLLICULAR LYMPHOMA. [Reuters](#) (11/16) reports the FDA on Thursday "expanded approvals for Roche's Gazyva" (obinutuzumab) "to include previously untreated follicular lymphoma, bolstering the Swiss drugmaker's efforts to strengthen its portfolio of blood cancer medicines." Gazyva is a follow-on to Rituxan, "which at more than \$7 billion in annual sales is Roche's top seller but which has lost patent protection in Europe, exposing it to cheaper copies."

FEDERAL JURY CLEARS ENDO UNIT OF LIABILITY IN FIRST TESTOSTERONE

REPLACEMENT TRIAL. [Reuters](#) (11/16) reports a federal jury in Chicago on Thursday cleared Endo International's Auxilium unit in the case of a man who suffered a heart attack while using the company's testosterone replacement drug Testim. Reuters says the decision was a victory for Endo "in its first trial over allegations it defectively designed Testim, a skin gel, and negligently misrepresented its risks." Endo and its subsidiaries "face some 1,290 other Testim lawsuits in state and federal courts across the country, the company's latest regulatory filing in November showed." The case is part of a larger litigation where some "6,000 plaintiffs allege that a range of defendants, such as AbbVie Inc, Pfizer, Inc, Endo Pharmaceuticals, Inc and GlaxoSmithKline, had failed to warn of cardiovascular risks from their testosterone drugs."

EATING NUTS MAY REDUCE RISK OF HEART DISEASE, RESEARCH SUGGESTS. The [New York Times](#) (11/16, Bakalar, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) "Well" blog reports that [research](#) published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology suggests eating nuts may reduce heart disease risk. The study indicated that "compared to those who ate none, people who ate less than one one-ounce serving of nuts" per "week reduced their risk for heart attack and stroke by 9 percent and their risk for coronary heart disease by 12 percent." Meanwhile consuming "a one-ounce serving five times a week was" linked to "a 14 percent reduction in cardiovascular events and a 20 percent reduction in coronary heart disease." The research was supported by NIH grants.

CALIFORNIA RELEASES RULES FOR MEDICAL, RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA. The [San Francisco Chronicle](#) (11/16, Swan, 3.31M) reports that on Thursday, the state of California "released its long-awaited rules for medical and recreational cannabis," which prohibit the mixing of cannabis and alcohol, the limitation of psychoactive chemical quantities in cannabis products, and stipulations for marketing. The rules, released by three licensing agencies – the Department of Health, Department of Food and Agriculture, and the Bureau of Cannabis Control – follow "mass confusion among cities that haven't put together their own regulations for the sale of recreational marijuana, which will be legal on January 1."

FORMERLY UNNAMED NFL PLAYER IN BREAKTHROUGH CTE STUDY IDENTIFIED AS FRED MCNEILL. In continuing coverage, [USA Today](#) (11/16, Schad, 8.62M) reports researchers studying new methods to diagnose chronic traumatic encephalopathy prior to patient death identified Fred McNeill, "former first-round draft pick who played 12 seasons with the Minnesota Vikings," as the subject of a [study](#) which made him the "first confirmed case of CTE found in a living person." McNeill was unnamed prior to this week, when the study published in the journal Neurosurgery confirmed that testing done to McNeill's brain four years before he died showed that spots on his brain were associated with a recent autopsy's findings "of the protein associated with CTE in those exact spots."

CORD BLOOD BANK PROGRAM CHALLENGED BY FINANCIAL STRUGGLES, DECLINING DONATIONS. The [Baltimore Sun](#) (11/10, McDaniels, 706K) reports on the increasing number of umbilical cord blood banks that are closing due to financial struggles, although the "have seen success in the units of blood collected." The piece says HHS commissioned the RAND Corp. to lead a study into how to stabilize their finances, finding factors such as "competition from private blood banks and high operating costs" as well as declining donations inhibited progress.

ARIZONA COUNTY CONFIRMS AREA'S FIRST HANTAVIRUS CASE OF YEAR. The [Arizona Republic](#) (11/16, Del Rio, 968K) reports Coconino County health officials confirmed the county's first hantavirus case of the year, saying a visitor to the state carried hantavirus pulmonary syndrome while traveling throughout Arizona. It is the sixth case in the county since 2007, and "it is not known how the person contracted the virus," which is "transmitted by rodent feces." The CDC reports "728 cases of hantavirus had been confirmed in the United States as of January this year, with 697 of those confirmed since 1993, when health officials began formally tracking the disease."

MENTAL QUICKNESS MAY LEAD TO LOWER RISK OF DEMENTIA, STUDY SUGGESTS.

The [Tampa Bay \(FL\) Times](#) (11/16, Griffin, 877K) reports a recent [study](#) published in the journal *Alzheimer's & Dementia: Translational Research & Clinical Interventions* found computer-based brain-training exercises led to a reduced risk of dementia by 29 percent. Researchers "followed more than 2,800 healthy senior adults in six locations for 10 years as they aged from 74 to 84," finding that those in a group using computers "to focus on visual processing and how quickly they could identify an answer to a question" saw their risk of dementia fall. The study received funding from the National Institutes of Health.

JUNO THERAPEUTICS DISCUSSES RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION INTO CAR-T THERAPY PATIENT DEATHS.

[Science Magazine](#) (11/16, Dengler, 399K) reports Juno Therapeutics last week presented results from its internal investigation into the deaths of five leukemia patients taking its chimeric antigen receptor (CAR)-T cell therapy, "concluding that individual patient characteristics and 'product variability' made for a lethal combination that led to fatal brain swelling." Some researchers have found the "clinical trial deaths somewhat mysterious," while Juno chief medical officer Mark Gilbert said at the Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer annual meeting said the breakdown of the blood-brain barrier in the deceased patients seems to be "a unique mechanism within this setting." He explained the combined patient and product factors "create cumulative risk for fatal neurotoxicity."

JURY FINDS IN FAVOR OF JOHNSON & JOHNSON IN CALIFORNIA TALC TRIAL.

[Reuters](#) (11/16, Raymond) reports a California jury issued a verdict in favor of Johnson & Johnson in a case filed by a woman who claimed she got mesothelioma from using the company's talc-based products, including its baby powder. This was the "first trial centering on claims that J&J's talc products contained asbestos," and the company is defending "thousands of cases claiming those products can also cause ovarian cancer." Johnson & Johnson issued a statement, saying, "Johnson's Baby Powder has been around since 1894 and it does not contain asbestos or cause mesothelioma or ovarian cancer." The article mentions that the verdict came as a separate federal jury ordered Johnson & Johnson to pay \$247 million to six patients who claimed they were injured by defective Pinnacle hip implants.

MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO START NATIONAL DIABETES PREVENTION PROGRAM.

[Crain's New York Business](#) (11/16, Lewis, 265K) reports that New York's largest physician trade group, the Medical Society of the State of New York, has partnered with the American Medical Association to bring its Prevent Diabetes STAT initiative to the state. Crain's says that the "model encourages physicians to screen patients for prediabetes, a condition in which blood glucose levels are higher than normal but below the threshold for a diabetes diagnosis" and then refer the patients to diabetes prevention programs that meet Centers for Disease Control and Prevention criteria.

EVEN VERY LIGHT EXERCISE MAY REDUCE MORTALITY IN OLDER WOMEN,

RESEARCHERS SAY. In "Well," the [New York Times](#) (11/16, Bakalar, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports, "Using accelerometers to precisely measure physical activity," investigators discovered that "even very light exercise, well below the generally recommended levels, reduces mortality in older women." Included in the study were "6,382 women ages 63 to 99." The [findings](#) were published in the *Journal of the American Genetics Society*.

The [Boston Globe](#) (11/16, Meyers, 969K) reports another study, published online in the journal *Circulation*, which "focused on women around the age of 72...showed that those who participated in moderate and vigorous physical activity had a 60 to 70 percent lower risk of death over a four-year period than those who were not as active."

SPEED IN GOBBLING FOOD MAY BE LINKED TO METABOLIC SYNDROME, RESEARCH SUGGESTS.

The [New York Daily News](#) (11/16, 3.61M) reports, "Speed in gobbling down your food could be linked to obesity, heart disease and diabetes," researchers found. Speed eating "was linked to metabolic syndrome." The findings of the 1,083-participant study were presented at

the American Heart Association's Scientific Sessions 2017.

BABY BOOMERS HAVE 60% LOWER RISK OF DEVELOPING AMD THAN THE PREVIOUS GENERATION, STUDY INDICATES. The [Wisconsin State Journal](#) (11/16, Wahlberg, 382K) reports that baby boomers "have a 60 percent lower risk of developing age-related macular degeneration than the previous generation," researchers found. The [findings](#) were published online in JAMA Ophthalmology.

[HealthDay](#) (11/16, Mundell, 11K) reports that in arriving at the study's conclusions, researchers "tracked the eye health of more than 4,800 Wisconsin residents," and also "tracked the number of new cases of age-related macular degeneration (AMD) that emerged over a five-year span." Notably, "the five-year risk for AMD declined by generation throughout the 20th century," the study found.

Global Health:

POPE FRANCIS URGES LAWMAKERS AROUND THE WORLD TO ENSURE EQUAL ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE. The [AP](#) (11/16, D'emilio) reports that on Thursday, Pope Francis "urged lawmakers to ensure that health care laws protect the 'common good,' decrying the fact that in many places, only the privileged can afford sophisticated medical treatments." Francis said, "Increasingly, sophisticated and costly treatment are available to ever more limited and privileged segments of the population, and this raises questions about the sustainability of health care delivery and about what might be called a systemic tendency toward growing inequality in health care." He added, "This tendency is clearly visible at the global level, particularly when different countries are compared. ... But it is also present within the more wealthy countries, where access to health care risks being more dependent on individuals' economic resources than on their actual need for treatment." The AP says the pope made the comments during a medical association meeting at the Vatican.

[Reuters](#) (11/16, Pullella) also covers the story.

PHILIPPINES REALLOWS CONTRACEPTIVE DEVICES AFTER CERTIFYING THEY DO NOT CAUSE ABORTIONS. [Reuters](#) (11/16, Mogato) reports the health department in the Philippines announced Thursday that it will "reallow the use of contraceptive implants after certifying 51 drugs and devices safe and not the cause of abortions." The Supreme Court imposed a restraining order in 2015 after Roman Catholic bishops "said some drugs and devices caused abortions." Health Secretary Francisco Duque said, "With the Food and Drug Administration's issuance of an advisory declaring all of the 51 contraceptive products ... cannot cause abortion, it is now all systems go for the Department of Health to fully implement the law."

CHINA'S AVERAGE AIR QUALITY WORSENERD IN OCTOBER. [Reuters](#) (11/17, Stanway) reports China's Ministry of Environmental Protection said Friday that the average air quality in 338 cities worsened in October, despite a campaign to cut emissions for the past six months. Reuters reports, "Concentrations of hazardous breathable particles known as PM2.5 rose 5.6 percent on the year to an average of 38 micrograms per cubic meter, and stood at 41 micrograms over the first 10 months, unchanged from a year earlier." The five cities with the most smog were all in the Hebei province, home to the country's steel production regions and a "major consumer of coal."

INDIAN GOVERNMENT UNLIKELY TO ACT ON SMOG THIS YEAR. [Reuters](#) (11/16) reports Indian government officials said they were aware of what was needed to control a "smoky haze" across northern India, "but nothing would be done, at least this year." A major source of the smog is farmers "burning the stubble of the previous crop to prepare for new plantings in November." It would cost an estimated \$600 million to provide farmers with alternatives, but political parties in New Delhi and nearby Punjab states "are squabbling over who will pay." According to Reuters, "It's not just the crop burning – a combination of industrial smog, vehicle exhaust and dust

envelop the region every year as winter approaches and wind speeds drop." This year's smog is "particularly bad...with levels of PM 2.5, tiny particulate matter that reaches deep into the lungs, climbing to over 600 last week, according to a U.S. Embassy measure," a dozen times higher than 50, the upper limit of healthy air.

Diplomats Consider Fleeing New Delhi Over Air Pollution Concerns. The [Washington Post](#) (11/16, Doshi, 10.38M) reports some diplomats in New Delhi, India, have begun preparations to leave the city due to its persistent pollution levels impacting the air quality. The piece says that some diplomatic missions "have even moved nonessential staff to nearby countries such as Singapore," while one Thai ambassador requested his country make New Delhi a "hardship" position.

MADAGASCAR FIGHTS OFF WORST OUTBREAK OF PLAGUE IN 50 YEARS. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/16, Wexler, Antoy, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports Madagascar is attempting to contain the worst outbreak of plague in a half century. The African island nation's health ministry reported over 2,100 probable cases from Aug. 1 to Nov. 10, including 171 deaths. The plague has been present in Madagascar, but it has reached the islands' densely-populated cities for the first time. The number of new cases appears to be slowing, but the World Health Organization and government officials are still surveilling the public. They are also conducting screening measures at the country's border to prevent the plague spreading internationally.

UKRAINE FINES SANOFI FOR ALLEGED ANTI-COMPETITIVE DISTRIBUTION DEALS. [STAT](#) (11/16, Silverman, 43K) reports in "Pharmalot" that on Tuesday, Ukraine's Antimonopoly Committee fined Sanofi "approximately \$2.6 million for purportedly working with two distributors to restrict competition of dozens of medicines" from 2010 to 2011. The agreements with BadMM and Optimum-Farm "allegedly made it possible for the distributors to raise prices for Sanofi medicines during public procurement procedures," meaning that "sales of the affected generics 'did not significantly increase, despite the lower price(s) compared to the Sanofi products sold with high trade margins.'" In its response, Sanofi said, "The decision...sets precedent by expanding competition law bans on market behavior, which previously was considered lawful, raising serious questions and concerns for companies selling branded products not only in the pharmaceutical sector but also beyond."

MEDICAL EMERGENCY HALTS AUSTRALIAN STATE PARLIAMENT'S "MARATHON" EUTHANASIA DEBATE. The [AP](#) (11/16, McGuirk) reports Australia's Victoria state parliament's "marathon debate on allowing voluntary euthanasia abruptly ended on Friday unresolved after a lawmaker collapsed in his office." Victoria "could legalize doctor-assisted suicide 20 years after the country repealed the world's first mercy killing law." The AP reports "the medical emergency was not explained," and lawmakers "had covered only eight of 141 clauses that will be debated before the parliament was adjourned."

JAPAN'S HEALTH MINISTRY TO SCALE DOWN ANTI-SMOKING PROPOSAL. [Reuters](#) (11/16, Lies) reports Japan's health ministry "is likely to drastically water down a proposal restricting smoking in restaurants, media said on Friday." Japan "ranks at the bottom globally in anti-smoking measures" according to the World Health Organization, which has partnered with global Olympics officials to guarantee smoke-free Games venues. Ahead of the 2020 summer Olympics, officials are pressuring Tokyo to follow Rio de Janeiro and other recent games hosts in banning smoking in all public areas, but "the Health Ministry was forced this year to scale back a proposed bill for a blanket ban on public smoking in the face of opposition by pro-smoking politicians, restaurateurs and Japan Tobacco."

National News:

SENATE PANEL TO INVESTIGATE FRANKEN AFTER SEXUAL HARASSMENT ACCUSATIONS. The sexual harassment accusations against Sen. Al Franken dominated the news cycle, with the major network newscasts devoting nearly nine minutes of airtime to the

story. [NBC Nightly News](#) (11/16, lead story, 2:50, Holt, 16.61M) opened its broadcast reporting that “the eye-opening list of powerful men outed for sexual misconduct now includes a sitting US senator,” and [ABC World News Tonight](#) (11/16, lead story, 3:05, Muir, 14.63M) also led with the “explosive charge” against Franken, “accused by a woman of forcibly kissing her during a USO tour.” The [New York Times](#) (11/16, Fandos, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) indicates Franken had “been mentioned as a possible presidential candidate,” and the [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) (11/12, Brooks, Spencer, Rao, 1.27M) that “in recent weeks,” he “had repeatedly cheered the accounts of other women in the #metoo movement.” For example, notes the [Washington Post](#) (11/16, Wang, Lee, Bever, 10.38M), “in a Facebook post last month...Franken applauded the bravery of the women who shared their stories,” writing, “As we hear more and more about Mr. Weinstein, it’s important to remember that while his behavior was appalling, it’s far too common.”

Leeann Tweeden recounted her experiences with Franken on the website of [KABC-AM Los Angeles](#) Los Angeles (11/16, 7K), where she is news anchor on the “McIntyre in the Morning” show. In her account, she says the now-US senator “put his hand on the back of my head, mashed his lips against mine and aggressively stuck his tongue in my mouth. ... I walked away. All I could think about was getting to a bathroom as fast as possible to rinse the taste of him out of my mouth. I felt disgusted and violated. ... I tried to let it go, but I was angry.” The [St. Paul \(MN\) Pioneer Press](#) (11/16, Orrick, 527K) reports that Tweeden, “a California radio host,” also presented “a photo that shows Franken grinning at the camera with his hands hovering over the clothed breasts of the sleeping woman.” Tweeden initially “provided the picture with a [tweet](#) saying: ‘I’ve decided it’s time to tell my story. #MeToo.’” [USA Today](#) (11/16, Przybyla, Estepa, 8.62M) notes Tweeden later said of the picture, “I couldn’t believe it. He groped me, without my consent, while I was asleep. ... I felt violated all over again. Embarrassed. Belittled. Humiliated. How dare anyone grab my breasts like this and think it’s funny?” The [CBS Evening News](#) (11/16, lead story, 2:20, Goldman, 11.17M) also showed the picture that “Tweeden says...shows...Franken groping her while she was sleeping,” but closed the segment reporting that it had “reached out to 16 women who used to work for Franken in the Senate. Six got back to us. They all said they never witnessed or experienced anything inappropriate.”

Tweeden also described the incident with Franken on [CNN’s The Lead](#) (11/16, 776K) and said, “I’ve been angry about it for over ten years, and...my circle of friends and my husband have known how I felt about it for so long. ... I wanted to come out with it ten years ago, and, you know, it wasn’t the right time and, you know, I don’t want anything. I didn’t come out for it to destroy anybody. I came out because I want, you know, if he did this to somebody else or if somebody else has been sexually assaulted or if they’ve been, you know, abused in any way, that maybe somebody else can come out in real time because they find strength in numbers.”

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/16, Andrews, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) similarly surveys Tweeden’s recollections of the 2006 incident, while [Breitbart](#) (11/16, Nolte, 2.42M) reports that “Franken, who has been married since 1975, was elected to the United States Senate in 2008.” The [New York Times](#) (11/16, Fandos, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) notes Tweeden also “wrote that she had been compelled to share the story after an on-air conversation with Representative Jackie Speier, Democrat of California, who has been a leading voice sounding alarms about sexual harassment on Capitol Hill in recent weeks.” Asked about the allegations, Speier told the [Washington Examiner](#) (11/16, Ferrechio, 465K), “I think it’s disgusting. ... Here is the issue. It’s about whether you have the approval to come on to someone and unwelcome sexual advances are prohibited. ... And I don’t care what initial you have next to your name. It should apply to everybody.”

The [AP](#) (11/16, Daly, Potter) reports Franken “initially released a brief statement in which he apologized but questioned Tweeden’s recollection of his behavior.” Then, “in a longer statement Thursday afternoon, he again apologized while maintaining that he remembered the rehearsal differently.” [Reuters](#) (11/16) says it “was unable to independently verify Tweeden or Franken’s accounts.”

The [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) (11/12, Brooks, Spencer, Rao, 1.27M) focuses on Franken's "extended apology" and call "for a Senate ethics investigation into his behavior." Said Franken, "The first thing I want to do is apologize: to Leeann, to everyone else who was part of that tour, to everyone who has worked for me, to everyone I represent, and to everyone who counts on me to be an ally and supporter and champion of women. There's more I want to say, but the first and most important thing – and if it's the only thing you care to hear, that's fine – is: I'm sorry." Added Franken, "While I don't remember the rehearsal for the skit as Leeann does, I understand why we need to listen to and believe women's experiences."

Congress, says [USA Today](#) (11/16, Przybyla, 8.62M), "may be gridlocked when it comes to policy battles – but the condemnation from lawmakers after allegations" against Franken "was incredibly swift on both sides of the aisle." The [Washington Post](#) (11/16, Phillips, 10.38M) also reports Franken "faced swift and bipartisan condemnation," and the [Los Angeles Times](#) (11/16, Decker, 4.49M) that for Democrats, such "expressions of disappointment...and calls for Ethics Committee action" were "necessary to avoid the suggestion of hypocrisy, since most of them have condemned Roy Moore."

[McClatchy](#) (11/16, Magness, 67K) reports Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell "said in a statement...that 'with all credible allegations of sexual harassment or assault, I believe the Ethics Committee should review the matter.'" McConnell "added that he hoped Democratic leader Chuck Schumer would join him on the issue." [Politico](#) (11/16, Schor, 3.6M) quotes McConnell as saying, "Regardless of party, harassment and assault are completely unacceptable – in the workplace or anywhere else." Schumer quickly agreed, calling for a Senate Ethics Committee investigation. The [Boston Globe](#) (11/16, Andersen, 969K) reports Sen. Elizabeth Warren also "condemned...her liberal colleague," saying, "The behavior reported today is unacceptable and deeply disappointing. ... I am glad Senator Franken has acknowledged as much and has agreed to cooperate with an ethics investigation."

To [Bloomberg News](#) (11/16, John, Litvan, 4.52M), "Republicans sought to capitalize on the accusations against a Democrat." The National Republican Senatorial Committee "sent a series of press releases calling on Democrats on the ballot in 2018 to return campaign contributions from Franken's leadership political action committee." Bloomberg adds that "senators targeted included Heidi Heitkamp of North Dakota, of Bob Casey of Pennsylvania, Debbie Stabenow in Michigan and Jon Tester of Montana."

[Roll Call](#) (11/16, 134K) reported that "Republican Party of Minnesota Chairwoman Jennifer Carnahan called for Franken to resign his Senate seat," while the NRSC communications director "questioned whether Florida Democratic Sen. Bill Nelson would still hold his fundraising date with Franken." Meanwhile, "Iowa Democratic candidate Abby Finkenaur, who's challenging Rod Blum, quickly announced she would donate Franken's contribution to her campaign to a nonprofit for survivors of sexual assault." The [New York Post](#) (11/16, Brown, 4.31M), meanwhile, notes "Sen. Claire McCaskill's campaign said she will donate \$30,000 from...Franken's political action committee to a 'Missouri-based charity,' while Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand will give \$12,500 she's received to Protect our Defenders, which fights rape and sexual assault in the military."

Sen. Richard Blumenthal said on [CNN's Situation Room](#) (11/16, 772K), "Unwanted groping and sexual advances are never funny or acceptable." Asked if he believes Tweeden Blumenthal said, "I believe the photograph of Al Franken, in effect groping her, cannot be denied." Blumenthal added, "We need the truth about all of what happened and if there are other facts that we should know about this incident, about other incidents, about other people, they have to be known as well. And then the ethics investigation is going to have to determine whether any sanctions or penalties are appropriate. I also believe, as a prosecutor and someone who really trusts the rule of law and impartial decision makers that this investigation ought to be allowed to proceed without any of us interfering in it."

The [Washington Post](#) (11/16, 10.38M) editorializes that as the Senate Ethics panel "looks into

Mr. Franken's behavior, it will have to consider what comes next. What level of misconduct merits a lawmaker's departure from Congress? Should the legislature have a zero-tolerance policy, or can gradations of offense be recognized? If a member's wrongdoing took place entirely before his time on the Hill, should that affect continued service?" The Post adds that "members of the House of Representatives should be asking these same questions," and that "both Democrats and Republicans should support measures to hold predators to account, provide victims with support and make clear that all people deserve to be treated with respect."

Political commentator Amanda Carpenter said on [CNN's The Lead](#) (11/16, 776K), "I think...Franken needs to do a lot more than issue a public apology via press release. She has a lot of class. She said she believed his apology. I think he needs to try to make it in person. She may not want to see him. He needs to make a much bigger gesture than a press release because she has gone through a lot over the last ten years."

Mollie Hemingway of The Federalist said on [Fox News' Special Report](#) (11/16, 2.53M), "There is absolutely no question that by the standard recently set by the political and media establishment that...Franken should be expelled. They have been saying for days that conduct 40 years ago should lead to expulsion from the Senate. There is no question this is a credible allegation. This is behavior that was just before he was a senator, and that's the standard that was being used for the last few days. But I do kind of wonder if maybe what should happen here is a little bit of everybody taking a deep breath, thinking through how to properly handle credible allegations of sexual assault and sexual impropriety, how to balance the allegations with the defense and whether we should institute better systems for handling this."

A.B. Stoddard of Real Clear Politics said on [Fox News' Special Report](#) (11/16, 2.53M), "I just feel, like a lot of people do, that this is the beginning of a big cascading event. I don't believe Senator Franken is the last lawmaker in the House or senator in the Senate to have done something like this. Women are coming together...in solidarity with each other, but also just try to stop it from happening again. It's going to really be a very difficult time on Capitol Hill."

Sean Hannity said on [Fox News' Hannity](#) (11/16, 3.78M) that Franken "has a long history of making all kinds of vicious, vile, completely out of line comments. He is also a massive hypocrite for sexual harassment." Hannity added, "We have to ask again, given this information, everything we now know, now considering everyone is raising questions who is fit for this office and who is fit for that office, is Sen. Franken fit for office? Sen. Franken clearly is a pretty sick, twisted individual with a warped sense of humor in his own mind that really isn't funny, but his actions do need to be evaluated. At the end of the day it will be the people of his home state that decide."

The USO, the [Washington Examiner](#) (11/16, Quinn, 465K) reports, "said Thursday the allegations...are 'deeply disturbing' and don't reflect the organization's values." Ashley McLellan, a spokeswoman for the USO, "told the Washington Examiner in an email the USO didn't have any knowledge of the incident."

Two "Prominent" Minnesota Democrats, NYTimes' Goldberg Call On Franken To Resign. The [Washington Examiner](#) (11/16, Nelson, 465K) reports, "Two prominent members of Minnesota's Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party," state auditor Rebecca Otto and Megan Thomas, "president of the party's official Feminist Caucus," are "calling on...Franken to resign his Senate seat following allegations of sexual misconduct." Otto, who is "a candidate for governor in Minnesota, said in a statement that 'I believe it's in the best interest of Minnesotans and of women everywhere for Senator Franken to resign, and to set an example to powerful men across America that sexual harassment will not be tolerated.'" Thomas, meanwhile, "told the Washington Examiner that Franken's misconduct was 'every woman's nightmare on a bus.'" She also said in a Facebook post, "No one should fear their elected representatives, so, sadly, for me, I think the Senator should resign."

Michelle Goldberg, in a [New York Times](#) (11/16, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) column,

writes she had “hoped Franken would run for president in 2020,” but though she “would mourn Franken’s departure from the Senate...he should go, and the governor should appoint a woman to fill his seat. The message to men in power about sexual degradation has to be clear: We will replace you.”

Franken Photographed Groping Another Woman In 2000. [The Federalist](#) (11/16, Payton, 88K) reports that “Tweeden isn’t the only woman Franken has been photographed groping. At a roast hosted by Comedy Central in 2000, Franken was photographed groping Joy Behar’s breast.”

Another Woman Accuses Franken Of Harassing Phone Calls Until She Threatened To Call Police. The [San Jose \(CA\) Mercury News](#) (11/16, Ross, 467K) reports “Melanie Morgan, a longtime Bay Area conservative radio anchor, claimed Thursday that she was harassed with phone calls by...Franken...in 2000, following a contentious debate on Bill Maher’s ABC late-night show ‘Politically Incorrect.’” Morgan “made the allegations on [Media Equalizer](#), a blog she co-founded,” saying “the harassment consisted of Franken aggressively trying to continue the argument off air and repeatedly calling her personal phone number to ‘badger’ her.” Wrote Morgan, “He wouldn’t leave me alone, he kept following me. As a woman, his presence and proximity to me felt very threatening and intimidating.” She also “said he later approached the show’s producer to get her phone number, ‘which was a clear violation of network protocol,’ but ‘Franken got the phone number and ‘shocked’ her by calling her home at least three times.” Adds Morgan, “By the third phone call I was outraged and terrified, as he is really disturbed.” Morgan also “said he finally left her alone after she threatened to call the police and report him.”

White House: Senate Investigation “Appropriate.” [Politico](#) (11/16, Lima, 3.6M) reports “White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Thursday it would be ‘appropriate’ for the Senate to investigate allegations” against Franken. Said Sanders, “On Sen. Franken, it appears that the Senate is looking into that, which they should, and we feel that that’s an appropriate action.”

Trump Weighs In On Allegations Against “Frankenstien” On Twitter. The President commented on the accusations against Franken last night, [tweeting](#), “The Al Frankenstien picture is really bad, speaks a thousand words. Where do his hands go in pictures 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 while she sleeps?” Trump [added](#), “And to think that just last week he was lecturing anyone who would listen about sexual harassment and respect for women. Lesley Stahl tape?” [Politico](#) (11/16, East, 3.6M) says “Trump’s acknowledgment of the accusations against Franken comes at the same time that he has distanced himself from...Moore, who has been accused of pursuing and harassing teenage girls when he was in his 30s.” [Axios](#) (11/16, Lawler, 303K) similarly indicates that “Trump weighed in quickly on Franken, but has declined to address the child sexual abuse allegations against...Moore.”

WHITE HOUSE: TRUMP FINDS MOORE ALLEGATIONS “TROUBLING,” BUT FATE UP TO ALABAMA VOTERS. The White House on Thursday weighed in on the controversy engulfing Alabama Senate candidate Roy Moore, though President Trump, himself, didn’t comment on the situation. The [CBS Evening News](#) (11/16, story 2, 2:30, Mason, 11.17M), in a report that covered several aspects of the Moore controversy, showed a clip of White House press secretary Sarah Sanders saying, “The President believes that these allegations are very troubling and should be taken seriously, and he thinks that the people of Alabama should make the decision on who their next Senator should be.”

[Bloomberg News](#) (11/16, Wayne, Olorunnipa, 4.52M) reports that Sanders “said Trump continues to believe that ‘if any of these allegations are true’ Moore should withdraw from the race. That led to a series of questions from reporters about how the allegations might be substantiated. Sanders said ‘that should be determined, possibly, by a court of law’ but that it is ‘a decision the people of Alabama should make, not the president.’”

[USA Today](#) (11/16, Korte, Berry, 8.62M) reports that Sanders' remarks "ended days of silence from the White House, since the allegations first arose last week while Trump was on a 12-day Asia trip. But Sanders stopped short of calling for Moore to drop out of the race, as a chorus of other Republican senators – including Majority Leader Mitch McConnell – have done."

The [Washington Times](#) (11/16, Miller, 541K) reports that Sanders "did not say whether Mr. Trump believed the women" who've accused Moore "of pursuing them or making inappropriate sexual contact. Most of the women were teens, although of legal age in Alabama, when the incidents occurred in the 1970s." Asked "why Mr. Trump had not called for Mr. Moore...to quit the race, Mrs. Sanders repeatedly said that it was up to Alabama voters. 'The president has been clear that if any of these allegations are true...then he should do the right thing and step aside,' Mrs. Sanders said."

Under the headline "Trump Stops Short Of Saying US Senate Candidate Moore Should Leave Race," [Reuters](#) (11/16, Mason, Alexander) quotes Sanders as saying, "The president said in his statement earlier this week that if the allegations are true, then Roy Moore should step aside. He still firmly believes that." However, [Politico](#) (11/16, Nelson, 3.6M) reported that Sanders "refused to outline what it would take for Trump to become convinced of the accusations' veracity. Sanders also declined to say whether or not Trump would vote for Moore if he were an Alabama voter and would not commit to following up with reporters on the issue."

Under the headline "Trump Ducks Moore Scandal," [Politico](#) (11/16, Johnson, Isenstadt, 3.6M) reported that "Trump has steered conspicuously clear of the" Moore controversy. His "absence from the race has compounded GOP worries the party is about to lose a seat it has no business relinquishing to Democrats. Republicans say a denunciation of Moore from Trump, a beloved figure in Alabama despite his problems elsewhere, offers the only hope of keeping the seat in the party's hands. But Trump sees nothing but negatives in getting involved, according to three White House aides, who say they consider the options laid out by McConnell and his team far-fetched."

Asked to comment on Moore, Counselor to the President Kellyanne Conway said on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#) (11/16, 2.25M) "that I was the first person in the Administration last Thursday when this news broke...at the time to come out against the conduct as it was described, and I went a step further. I said – because I tried to make this an issue over a year ago on October 9, 2016, when I talked about maybe, when I was younger and prettier, folks on Capitol Hill behaving in such a way that we should take a look at. ... Nobody wanted to listen to me, because of the campaign I was managing. This is an important topic but in terms of this particular issue and this particular Senate race, I will not get ahead of the President and anything he wishes to add."

Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) said on [CNN's Situation Room](#) (11/16, 772K), "Roy Moore is unfit to be a United States senator on various grounds and those grounds include the kinds of sexual advances he made to children."

Alabama GOP Steering Committee Backs Moore. Meanwhile, the [New York Times](#) (11/16, Blinder, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that the Alabama GOP on Thursday said "that it would stand behind...Moore, most likely leaving Republicans with a nominee facing numerous allegations of sexual misconduct and unwanted overtures to women. The decision, which a committee of 21 party leaders reached Wednesday evening but did not formally announce until Thursday, placed the state's Republicans at bitter and public odds with national party leaders, who had demanded that Mr. Moore leave the race."

The [Washington Times](#) (11/16, McLaughlin, 541K) reports that in a statement, the Alabama GOP said, "The ALGOP Steering Committee supports Judge Roy Moore as our nominee and trusts the voters as they make the ultimate decision in this crucial race." The statement added, "Judge Moore has vehemently denied the allegations made against him. He deserves to be presumed innocent of the accusations unless proven otherwise. He will continue to take his case straight to the people of Alabama."

Gov. Ivey Won't Change Date Of Dec. 12 Special Election. On its website, [CNN](#) (11/16, Bradner, 33.59M) reported that Gov. Kay Ivey (R-AL) on Thursday said "that the state's Senate special election date will not change, despite national Republican leaders' efforts to get...Moore off the ballot. ... Asked if there are any circumstances in which the date of the election or the candidates included could change, Ivey" said, "The election's going to be December the 12th."

[The Hill](#) (11/16, Kamisar, 1.68M) reported that Ivey torpedoed "the idea that Sen. Luther Strange (R-Ala.) could resign and delay next month's special election." The Hill added that a "long-shot option that's been mulled" by Washington Republicans "is that Strange, who was appointed to fill the seat temporarily after Jeff Sessions left it to become attorney general, could step down before the election and reset the clock." However, "Ivey shot that prospect down."

Moore: Allegations "Not Only Untrue, But They Have No Evidence To Support Them." The [Montgomery \(AL\) Advertiser](#) (11/16, Lyman, 18K) reports, "Speaking at the end of an event" yesterday in Birmingham, "where 'pro-family' speakers expressed support for" Moore, the candidate "declined to answer questions about accusations that he pursued relationships with teenagers in the late 1970s and early 1980s, and that he engaged in sexual misconduct with them. Moore and his wife left the event without answering questions."

However, [CNN](#) (11/16, Watkins, 33.59M) reported on its website that Moore on Thursday "continued to deny the allegations against him as more women continue to come forward. 'They're not only untrue, but they have no evidence to support them,' Moore said in Birmingham." And referring to the Washington Post story that first detailed the accusations against him, Moore said, "The Washington Post is certainly not evidence."

NBC News Interviews Moore Accuser. On [NBC Nightly News](#) (11/16, story 2, 2:45, Holt, 16.61M), Gabe Gutierrez reported that Moore on Thursday "vowed to stay in the race," even "as more women are coming forward to accuse Moore of unwanted advances ranging from flirting to sexual assault." NBC News interviewed Tina Johnson, who, according to Gutierrez, "says Moore groped her at his law office in 1991 when she was 28 and trying to settle a child custody case." Johnson was shown saying, "I was in shock. And I was so humiliated and sickening. ... When I got up and went out, he grabbed my behind. He had power over me. He had me in a position where I couldn't do nothing."

ABC News Highlights WPost Report On New Accuser's Claims. On [ABC World News Tonight](#) (11/16, story 2, 3:20, Muir, 14.63M), Tom Llamas reported that "Moore has tried to push past the allegations, but new ones pop up nearly every day. The latest, [from](#) the Washington Post. Gena Richardson says she was a teenage girl, around 18 years old, when Roy Moore approached her at the local mall where she was working. ... A few days later, Richardson says she was sitting in trigonometry class when she was called to the principal's office. She tells the Post she was startled, and thought maybe her dad was calling. Instead, she says, the man on the phone was Roy Moore. 'He said 'what are you doing? I said, 'I'm in trig class.' Richardson says Moore asked her out, but she told him she couldn't talk. A few days later, at the mall, she says he asked her out again, and that night, they went to the movies. After, Richardson says Moore offered her a ride, and in his car gave her what she calls a 'forceful' kiss. 'I'd never been kissed like that,' she says, 'and the minute that happened, got scared, and so I said I've got to go, because my curfew is now.'"

Moore Seizes On Franken Allegations To Hammer McConnell. [Alabama Live](#) (11/16, Gattis, 608K) reports that in the wake of Sen. Al Franken (D-MN) on Thursday being accused of groping a woman and forcing a kiss on her, Moore "suggested that there was a double standard for how he is being treated." In a tweet targeting Senate Majority Leader McConnell, Moore said, "Al Franken admits guilt after photographic evidence of his abuse surfaces. Mitch: 'Let's investigate.' In Alabama, ZERO evidence, allegations 100% rejected. Mitch: 'Moore must quit immediately or be expelled.'" McConnell, who has repeatedly called on Moore to drop his bid, on Thursday

"called on the Senate Ethics Committee to review the allegations against Franken." The [Washington Times](#) (11/16, Morton, 541K) offers a similar report.

NRCC Chief: Moore Should "Step Aside." [The Hill](#) (11/16, Manchester, 1.68M) reported that during a Thursday appearance on CNN, National Republican Congressional Committee chief Steve Stivers "called on...Moore to step aside." Said Stivers, "I think that Roy Moore should step aside," adding, "I do believe these women." Stivers, "who had previously donated to Moore's campaign," also said, "I've subsequently asked for my money back." The [Washington Times](#) (11/16, Persons, 541K) also reports on Stivers' remarks.

Fox News Poll: Democrat Jones Leads Moore 50%-42%. On its website, [Fox News](#) (11/16, Blanton, 12.87M) reported that a Fox News poll of 649 Alabama likely voters, taken Nov. 13-15, shows ex-US Attorney Doug Jones (D) leading Moore 50%-42% in the Dec. 12 special election. Fox News said, "Support from women is the key to the Democrat's" edge, "as Jones is their choice by 26 points (58-32 percent). The gap grows to 49 points among women under age 45 (69-20 percent), and he's up by 11 among women ages 45 and over (51-40 percent). Jones even receives 19 percent support from Republican women (to Moore's 68 percent)." [The Hill](#) (11/16, Anapol, 1.68M) also reported on the poll results.

[Politico](#) (11/16, Debenedetti, Strauss, 3.6M) reported that while Jones "remains an underdog in a state" Trump carried by 28 points, "he does have a path. Here's how it looks, according to interviews with nearly a dozen Democrats within and near Jones' team since Moore was hit with accusations of pursuing – and in two cases abusing – teenage girls. First, create a permission structure for alienated Republicans who are skeptical of Moore...to cross the aisle. At the same time invigorate the base, especially African-Americans." Lastly, "keep the national Democratic Party and its despised brand as far out of the picture as possible, while still benefiting from its money."

Under the headline "Democrat Doug Jones, Roy Moore's Rival, Gains Traction In Alabama Senate Race," the [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/16, Jamerson, Hook, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that Jones is picking up momentum as Moore continues to battle allegations of sexual misconduct. Jones, according to the Journal, is largely focusing on issues such as healthcare and jobs

Alabama Evangelicals Divided Over Whether To Support Moore. Under the headline "For Some Evangelicals, A Choice Between Moore And Morality," the [Washington Post](#) (11/16, Fisher, 10.38M) reports on the debate among Alabama Christians over whether to support Moore, saying, "What's happening in the churches of Alabama – a state where half the residents consider themselves evangelical Christians, double the national average, according to a Pew Research study – is nothing less than a battle for the meaning of evangelism, some church leaders say. It is a titanic struggle between those who believe there must be one clear, unalterable moral standard and those who argue that to win the war for the nation's soul, Christians must accept morally flawed leaders."

TRUMP'S ACCUSERS "WONDER WHEN THE PRESIDENT MIGHT FINALLY PAY A PRICE." [People](#) (11/16, Herbst, 12.31M) reports on its website that "some of the women who accused Donald Trump of sexual harassment or assault during the presidential campaign wonder when the president might finally pay a price for what he allegedly did to them." Jessica Leeds, "who alleges Trump tried to kiss her, fondle her breasts and put his hand up her skirt while on a flight to New York in the early 1980s," told People, "Things just seem to fall off of Trump. I'm extremely disappointed." People says that the women's stories – "like the harrowing one People writer Natasha Stoyneff shared of Trump allegedly attacking her in 2005 by pushing her up against a wall at Mar-a-Lago and shoving his tongue down her throat – are backed up in most cases by co-workers, friends or family members."

Jason Le Miere of [Newsweek](#) (11/16, 991K) writes, "Almost 20 years after [Bill] Clinton was

impeached for lying under oath and obstructing justice stemming from accusations of sexual harassment, Trump could face a similar fate." The President "is currently the subject of a defamation lawsuit filed by a former contestant on his reality TV show The Apprentice, Summer Zervos, who has accused him of sexual assault." The judge in the case "is expected to decide before the end of the year whether the suit should move ahead."

Pentagon: Retweet Of Call For Trump To Resign Was An "Error." The [AP](#) (11/16, Burns) reports that the Pentagon on Thursday said "it accidentally retweeted a tweet that urged President Donald Trump to resign. Without mentioning the content of the original tweet, a Pentagon spokesman, Col. Rob Manning, said...the person who had retweeted the item was an authorized operator of the official Defense Department Twitter account, which has 5.2 million followers. Manning said the person 'caught this error and immediately deleted it.'" The original "tweet was posted Thursday by a person whose Twitter handle is @ProudResister. It said, 'The solution is simple. Roy Moore: Step down from the race. Al Franken: Resign from congress. Donald Trump: Resign from the presidency. GOP: Stop making sexual assault a partisan issue. It's a crime as is your hypocrisy.'" The [Washington Post](#) (11/16, Lamothe, 10.38M) also reports on the story.

WOMAN SAYS GEORGE H.W. BUSH GROPED HER DURING 1992 CAMPAIGN. On its website, [CNN](#) (11/16, Jones, 33.59M) reported that ex-President George H.W. Bush "is facing new allegations from a Michigan woman who said he touched her inappropriately while he was in office at an event in April 1992." The accuser told CNN that "she was attending a fundraiser for Bush's re-election campaign in Dearborn, Michigan, with her father when the president grabbed her rear end during a photo-op." The woman asked CNN "that her name not be published," but "CNN has spoken with the woman's ex-husband and her best friend, both of whom she told of the incident soon after it occurred." The accuser's "story – remarkably similar to the accounts shared by at least six other women who said the former president groped them during photo-ops between 2003 and 2016 – is significant, because it is the first time a woman has come forward to accuse Bush of unwanted touching while he was in office."

BRAZILE HAILS BILL CLINTON ACCUSERS. The [Miami Herald](#) (11/16, Garvin, 701K) reported that ex-interim DNC chief Donna Brazile on Wednesday "continued to torch her own party during a talk at the Miami Book Fair," offering "harsh words for" ex-DNC Chair "Debbie Wasserman Schultz, the Hillary Clinton campaign and even the sexual transgressions of Bill Clinton. Brazile called Wasserman Schultz a spendthrift who unleashed a 'cancer' on the party during her term as" DNC chief, "accused Hillary Clinton of planting the seeds of her own campaign's destruction with an arrogant disdain for advice and suggested however gently that the women who accused Bill Clinton of sexual improprieties should have gotten a more respectful reception. 'It was brave of them to come forward,' she said of the former president's accusers."

53% Of Hillary Voters Say Sexual Misconduct Allegations Against Bill Clinton "Credible." The [Washington Times](#) (11/16, Richardson, 541K) reported that in a Huffington Post/YouGov poll of people who voted for Hillary Clinton in the 2016 presidential race, taken Oct. 27-28, 53% of those surveyed said "the sexual misconduct accusations against Bill Clinton are 'credible,'" while 11% said "the accusations are 'not credible,'" and 36% were "not sure or need[ed] more information." In the larger survey of 1,000 "respondents," 57% said "the accusations against the 42nd president are credible," while 8% said "they are not." The survey didn't "single out a specific accusation against Mr. Clinton for scrutiny," but simply asked "participants whether these 'assertions generally are credible or are not credible?'"

Gillibrand: Bill Clinton Should Have Stepped Down Over Lewinsky Affair. The [New York Times](#) (11/16, Steinhauer, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), "who holds Hillary Clinton's former seat, said on Thursday that Bill Clinton should have resigned the presidency after his inappropriate relationship with" Monica Lewinsky "came to light nearly 20 years ago. Asked directly if she believed Mr. Clinton should have stepped down at the time, Ms. Gillibrand took a long pause and said, 'Yes, I think that is the appropriate response.'"

However, Gillibrand “also appeared to signal that what is currently considered a fireable offense may have been more often overlooked during the Clinton era.” Said Gillibrand, “Things have changed today, and I think under those circumstances there should be a very different reaction.”

Chelsea Handler To Clinton Rape Accuser Broadrick: “I Believe You.” [Breitbart](#) (11/16, Berry, 2.42M) reported that comedian Chelsea Handler on Wednesday “apologized to Bill Clinton rape-accuser Juanita Broadrick for ‘not knowing’ her story, telling her now, ‘I believe you.’” After Handler on Sunday had “tweeted Sunday about the accusations against Alabama Republican senatorial candidate Roy Moore,” Broadrick responded, on Twitter, saying, “I was raped by the Arkansas AG who then becomes Governor & President and NBC held my interview explaining the rape until after his impeachment hearing. But I’m sure you don’t want to go there.” On Wednesday, Handler responded, “You are right and I apologize to you for not knowing your story. Democrats along with Republicans and the rest of the world’s political parties all need to do better and respect the firsthand accounts of victims. I believe you.”

Six Women Accuse Florida Democratic Party Chief Of “Inappropriate” Behavior. [Politico](#) (11/16, Dixon, Caputo, 3.6M) reported, “Six former Florida Democratic Party staffers and consultants” – all women – “say that current party chairman Stephen Bittel has created an unprofessional workplace environment for women that includes persistent inappropriate comments, leering at young women and even inviting them on his private jet.” The accusers “said Bittel never inappropriately touched or threatened them. But he made them feel so uneasy that they didn’t want to be alone with him due to his body language, suggestive remarks and even the breast-shaped stress squeeze-ball he has been known to keep on his desk.” According to the accusers, Bittel “would make references about women cooking dinner, showing their breasts, their age, whether they wanted to ride on his plane, come to his hotel room or if they thought he was attractive.” Bittel “apologized” in a written statement.

LAWRENCE CHIEF OF STAFF RESIGNS AMID SEXUAL HARASSMENT ALLEGATIONS.

Under the headline “Top Aide To Anti-Harassment Lawmaker Resigns Amid Misconduct Claims,” [Politico](#) (11/16, Bade, 3.6M) reported that Rep. Brenda Lawrence (D-MI) on Thursday “announced the resignation of her chief of staff,” Dwayne Duron Marshall, in the wake of “allegations by women in her office that he had sexually harassed them.” Marshall “denied those allegations.” Lawrence “accepted his resignation on Thursday. Lawrence has been one of the most outspoken members of Congress on sexual harassment issues, authoring legislation to combat inappropriate behavior by members of Congress and staff.”

PALIN: PEOPLE DON’T “MESS WITH ME” BECAUSE MANY “KNOW I’M PROBABLY PACKING.” The [Washington Examiner](#) (11/16, Mayfield, 465K) reported that Sarah Palin “spoke out against sexual harassment in the workplace on Thursday, but said personally hasn’t experienced any incidents because people know she is carrying a weapon.” Palin told Kasie Hunt of MSNBC, “I think a whole lot of people know I’m probably packing, so I don’t think there’s a whole lot of people who would necessarily mess with me.” Palin added, “I don’t mean to be lighthearted about it; this is a serious issue. ... It really stinks for women in the workplace that for too long, men have thought they can get away with that old-school thinking that it’s okay to belittle and harass women.”

SENATE PANEL SEEKS MORE INFORMATION FROM KUSHNER IN RUSSIA PROBE. Senior Justice Correspondent Pierre Thomas reported on [ABC World News Tonight](#) (11/16, story 5, 1:20, Muir, 14.63M) that President’s son-in-law and senior adviser Jared Kushner “has not turned over all of his emails to Senate investigators, looking into Russian meddling.” [Business Insider](#) (11/16, Bertrand, 3.83M) reports Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley and ranking member Dianne Feinstein have written to Kushner’s attorney, Abbe Lowell, alleging that Kushner “forwarded emails about a ‘Russian backdoor overture and dinner invite’ to Trump campaign officials and failed to produce those emails” to the committee. The senators also wrote that Kushner failed to produce emails “he was copied on involving communication with the anti-secrecy agency WikiLeaks and with a Belarusian-American businessman named Sergei Millian.”

[USA Today](#) (11/16, Kelly, 8.62M) says the committee "is seeking transcripts of Kushner's interviews with other congressional committees, missing documents related to WikiLeaks, communications with fired national security adviser Michael Flynn, and information about Kushner's security clearance to work at the White House."

[Politico](#) (11/16, Cheney, 3.6M) reports that the senators "also alluded to documents they received from other witnesses on which Kushner was copied." They wrote, "Other parties have produced September 2016 email communications to Mr. Kushner concerning WikiLeaks, which Mr. Kushner then forwarded to another campaign official. ... Such documents should have been produced...but were not. ... Likewise," the letter continued, "other parties have produced documents concerning a 'Russian backdoor overture and dinner invite' which Mr. Kushner also forwarded. And still others have produced communications with Sergei Millian, copied to Mr. Kushner. Again, these do not appear in Mr. Kushner's production despite being responsive to the second request. You also have not produced any phone records that we presume exist and would relate to Mr. Kushner's communications regarding several requests." The [Washington Post](#) (11/16, Demirjian, 10.38M) says Grassley and Feinstein "demanded that Kushner comply with their request for documents by Nov. 27, but stopped short of issuing a formal threat to subpoena those records if Kushner misses the deadline."

Jeff Pegues said on The [CBS Evening News](#) (11/16, story 5, 1:50, Mason, 11.17M) that Kushner is "the second of President Trump's inner circle to be involved with WikiLeaks. Earlier this week, it was revealed that the President's son Donald Trump Jr. actually exchanged Twitter messages with WikiLeaks."

[Reuters](#) (11/16, Landay, Zengerle) reports that White House press secretary Sarah Sanders referred questions about the letter to Lowell, who according to [Bloomberg News](#) (11/16, Dennis, 4.52M) issued a statement saying Kushner provided the committee with all "relevant documents that had to do with Mr. Kushner's calls, contacts or meetings with Russians during the campaign and transition." The [AP](#) (11/16, Jalonick) quotes Lowell's statement as saying, "We also informed the committee we will be open to responding to any additional requests and that we will continue to work with White House Counsel for any responsive documents from after the inauguration." The AP adds that while "the Judiciary Committee's investigation has stalled amid partisan disputes," the request "is a sign that the panel is still moving forward with its probe into the Russian interference and whether Trump's campaign was involved." [NBC Nightly News](#) (11/16, story 4, 0:20, Welker, 16.61M) also reported on the Senators' request in a brief story.

Kushner Still Waiting For Permanent Security Clearance. [Politico](#) (11/16, Dawsey, 3.6M) cites "White House officials and others with knowledge of the matter" who say Kushner "is still working with an interim security clearance." Kushner "has continued to work on sensitive foreign policy issues and other matters while his application for a permanent clearance remains under review, these people said."

Sater Will Cooperate With Request To Meet With Senate Panel. [McClatchy](#) (11/15, Wieder, Hall, 67K) reports that Felix Sater, a "Russian émigré and one-time Trump associate" will cooperate with a request from Sen. Dianne Feinstein, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Judiciary Committee, "to turn over documents and meet with the committee as part of its investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election." Feinstein on Wednesday "requested that Sater meet with the committee this month and turn over documents from 2015 and 2016 related to: a proposed Trump Tower deal in Russia, any actual or proposed visits by Trump to Moscow in 2016, a visit by Sater to Trump Tower in July 2016, a Russia-Ukraine peace deal Sater developed with a Ukrainian politician and former Trump organization lawyer Michael D. Cohen, and contact Sater had with the Trump campaign and Russian government officials regarding the 2016 election." McClatchy says investigators are particularly interested in Sater "because of his long overlapping history with Donald Trump."

Schiff: Trump Comments Hinder Russia Investigation. Rep. Adam Schiff, ranking Democrat

on the House Intelligence Committee, was asked on [MSNBC's Morning Joe](#) (11/16, 1.05M) if the President's comments to Moscow undermine the congressional investigation. Schiff said, "They certainly do and more importantly they undermine our ability to protect ourselves against the next Russian interference because probably the most important thing we can do is not necessarily hardening our computer systems at the Democratic Party, the Republican Party, but rather forming a national consensus that we will reject foreign intervention. If the President of the United States can't even acknowledge what his intelligence agencies are telling him or continues to cast doubt on it or claim this is all a hoax, it doesn't help the country prepare for when the Russians might very well do this again."

FEC Filings Potentially Show Russian Money Aiding Trump's Legal Defense. [Just Security](#) (11/16) reports that with FEC filings showing that the RNC has paid more than \$400,000 in personal legal fees for President Trump and Donald Trump Jr. in connection to the ongoing Russia investigations, there is a "troubling" possibility that Russian money is helping to pay those fees, because, "At least \$12,000 of those funds came from a Ukrainian-born billionaire with ties to Vladimir Putin." Just Security continues: "In addition to raising deep concerns about Russian interference, this development should also raise alarms about the state of our campaign finance system."

Mueller Subpoenaed Russia-Related Documents From Trump Campaign. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/16, Ballhaus, Nicholas, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that in special counsel Robert Mueller's first official order for information from the Trump campaign, his team issued a subpoena in October seeking documents from more than a dozen officials. Citing a [person familiar with the matter, the Journal says the campaign was surprised by the subpoena, which sought documents and emails that reference certain Russia-related keywords.

In a piece headlined, "Trump Campaign's Foreign-Policy Team Is Under Mueller's Microscope," [Bloomberg News](#) (11/15, Pettypiece, 4.52M) reports on several campaign advisers now either under investigation or cooperating with Mueller's investigation into Russian. One adviser mentioned in the article is Keith Kellogg, a foreign policy adviser who attended several meetings with fellow foreign policy aides Carter Page and George Papadopoulos. Kellogg, now chief of staff at the NSC, was interviewed by Mueller in early October, a person with knowledge of the probe says.

WPost Analysis Highlights Sessions' "Shifting Account" Of Russia Contacts. An analysis on the [Washington Post](#) (11/16, Zapotosky, 10.38M) "Post Politics" blog says Attorney General Sessions "on Tuesday again revised his account of what he knew about Trump campaign dealings with Russia – revealing for the first time that he, indeed, recalled a meeting in which" Papadopoulos "talked about having contacts who could possibly arrange a meeting between then-candidate Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin." Sessions claimed that "reading Papadopoulos's account improved his own recall, though his memory of the encounter was still vague," and "vigorously disputes that he has ever been intentionally deceptive with Congress or the public when it comes to his and others' Russia related dealings." The Post adds that this "is not the first instance in which Sessions has had to change his account when it comes to Russia" but says it is not clear "to what extent – if any – Sessions's shifting account could play a role" in the Russia investigation.

Steele Says Trump Dossier Is "70-90 Percent Accurate." The [Washington Times](#) (11/16, Boylan, 541K) reports that according to a book released Thursday titled, "Collusion: Secret Meetings, Dirty Money, and How Russia Helped Donald Trump Win," Trump dossier author Christopher Steele "insists" the document is "70-90 percent accurate," despite President Trump's repeated denials and dismissal of the document as "a pile of garbage" and "fake news." Steele who "says the multiple investigations should ultimately prove that much of his work was correct," is quoted as saying, "I've been dealing with [Russia] for 30 years. ... Why would I invent this stuff?"

Meadows: Special Counsel Needed To Investigate Dossier. Rep. Mark Meadows said on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#) (11/16, 1.39M) that during his testimony Tuesday, Sessions "at one point...acted like he was qualified to investigate this. At another he said he wasn't. Really we ought to take Hillary Clinton's own words. She said it's all about the rule of law and, indeed it is. So a special prosecutor would make sure they don't have a conflict of interest. Have independent counsel and make sure we get some answers because some of the evidence would suggest that the FBI was actually involved in this dossier. And so I think the American people deserve answers."

Kislyak Says List Of Trump Officials He Met With Is "So Long." In an interview Wednesday with the Russian state-owned television channel Russia-1, Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak said that "it would take him more than 20 minutes to name all of the Trump officials he's met with or spoken to on the phone," [CNBC](#) (11/16, Higgins, 3.48M) reports on its website. Kislyak said, "First, I'm never going to do that. ... And second, the list is so long that I'm not going to be able to go through it in 20 minutes." Kislyak "also joked about American investigations into Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election, called U.S. President Donald Trump 'witty,' and said that U.S.-Russian relations were worse than at any point since the end of the Cold War."

Gerson Laments "Accumulation Of Lies" Surrounding Russia Investigation. In his column for the [Washington Post](#) (11/16, 10.38M), Michael Gerson highlights what he describes as "a spectacular accumulation of lies" from the Administration, which he describes as "with a few exceptions, a group of people for whom truth, political honor, ethics and integrity mean nothing." Gerson writes that this is "what happens when right-wing politics becomes untethered from morality and religion." While the Trump Administration "will be remembered for many things," the "widespread, infectious corruption of institutions and individuals may be its most damning legacy."

Ex-Russian Troll: Kremlin "Absolutely" Backed Social Media Propaganda During 2016 Election. In an exclusive, [NBC Nightly News](#) (11/16, story 7, 2:00, Holt, 16.61M) reported on the "sophistication behind the Russian social media propaganda machine," with details provided by 26-year-old Vitale, a Russian who worked at Russia's Internet Research Agency, a troll farm "where lies were created and spread." Vitale worked at the center for three months in late 2014, where he wrote "up to 20 fake articles a day, spinning the war in Ukraine." After noting that Facebook told Congress that "Russian trolls posted 80,000 items from January 2015 to August 2017, reaching more than 20 million in the United States," NBC's Kelly Cobiella asked Vitale, "So you believe that this operation was backed by the Kremlin? 'Absolutely,' he says. He also believes it's still up and running."

WPost Feature: Page Has Opted To Embrace Spotlight Despite Scandal. In its Lifestyle section, the [Washington Post](#) (11/15, Zak, 10.38M) runs a 2,500-word piece titled "The Curious Journey Of Carter Page, The Former Trump Adviser Who Can't Stay Out Of The Spotlight." Dan Zak writes, "Page has spent 25 years burnishing a classic Washington résumé, and it seems to have landed him a classic Washington booby prize: a featured role in a marquee scandal." But "unlike most others caught in this kind of churn, Page keeps putting himself out there." Instead of "lawyering up" or hiring an "umbrella-wielding fixer shielding him from cameras," Page "been on MSNBC, the Kremlin-funded RT, 'PBS NewsHour' and even a D.C. nightlife website, in conversation with a punk rock star."

SECRET WITNESS IN URANIUM ONE PROBE WAS A LOBBYIST FOR ROSATOM. [Reuters](#) (11/16, Schectman) reports that according to Senate Republicans, their investigation into Hillary Clinton's role in approving the Uranium One deal "hinges in part on the testimony of a secret informant in a bribery and extortion scheme inside the same company." While the committee investigating the matter "is keeping their witness's name cloaked," lobbyist William D. Campbell "confirmed to Reuters he is the informant who will testify and provide documents to Congress" about the sale of the company to the Russian state-owned nuclear power company Rosatom. Campbell, at the time of the Uranium One sale, "was a confidential source for the FBI in a Maryland bribery and kickback investigation of the head of a U.S. unit of Rosatom." Citing the

Reuters story, the [Daily Caller](#) (11/16, Rodgers, 521K) also reports on Campbell's identity.

The [Washington Times](#) (11/16, Noble, 541K) reports that Campbell "tried unsuccessfully last year to recover upwards of \$700,000 in bribes he said he was authorized to pay as part of the FBI investigation." Campbell's civil suit "matches details of the criminal case brought against Vadim Mikerin," who was "the head of U.S. operations for Tenex," a subsidiary of Rosatom. Mikerin "was convicted of money laundering and other crimes and in 2015 sentenced to four years in prison."

White House: Trump Did Not Order Investigation Of Clinton. [The Hill](#) (11/16, Kamisar, 1.68M) reports that White House press secretary Sarah Sanders "denied Thursday that President Trump has ordered Attorney General Jeff Sessions to investigate Hillary Clinton or other Democrats despite telling reporters earlier this month that 'they should be looking at the Democrats.'" Sanders told reporters, "The president hasn't directed any investigation or the appointment of a special counsel. ... In fact, he said publicly that he hasn't been involved with that and that's entirely up to the Department of Justice."

INTERIOR IG FAULTS ZINKE'S TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION. Interior Department Deputy Inspector General Mary Kendall told department officials this week that Interior Secretary Zinke "has failed to keep complete records – and in some cases kept none at all – of his travel since taking office," the [Washington Post](#) (11/16, Rein, Harwell, 10.38M) reports. In "a rare alert" to Zinke's office, Kendall "said her investigation into allegations of improper travel practices by Zinke has been stymied by 'absent or incomplete documentation for several pertinent trips.'" In addition Kendall wrote that lawyers and ethics officials have not shown investigators that they can "distinguish between personal, political and official travel" or cost-analyses to justify Zinke's use of military or charter flights. The alert also says the IG is looking into "the travel of Zinke's wife, Lola, who often accompanied him on official trips." According to Kendall the department's documentation was so deficient that investigators were unable to determine "the full extent" of her travel and how it was paid for.

GRASSLEY PROCEEDING WITH JUDICIAL CONFIRMATIONS OVER OBJECTIONS FROM DEMOCRATS. In a move [Politico](#) (11/16, Kim, 3.6M) says will "likely escalate the judicial wars in the Senate," Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley announced Thursday that he is proceeding with a confirmation hearing for David Stras to the 8th US Circuit Court of Appeals over the objections of Sen. Al Franken, who "said earlier this year that he would not return the so-called blue slip for Stras because of his conservative ideology." Politico adds that Grassley "will announce that he will hold a hearing for Kyle Duncan, picked by President Donald Trump to serve on the 5th Circuit." While Sen. John Kennedy "has returned a blue slip...he noted that he was undecided on the nomination." Speaking on the Senate floor, Grassley said, "The Democrats seriously regret that they abolished the filibuster, as I warned them they would. ... But they can't expect to use the blue slip courtesy in its place. That's not what the blue slip is meant for."

Reuters Analysis: Senate Making "Major Headway" On Trump's Judicial Nominees. [Reuters](#) (11/16, Chung) reports that President Trump and Republicans "are steadily getting conservatives appointed as judges, advancing their long-held ambition of reshaping the federal judiciary." While Trump and Republicans "have not passed any major legislation since he took office in January," they "have made major headway on judicial appointments in recent weeks." The Senate has "voted to confirm 14 Trump judicial nominees." Democrats argue Republicans "are trying to ram Trump's nominees through the Senate, including some they say lack basic qualifications." Reuters adds that Democratic victories in state and local elections this month "signal[ed] potential trouble for Republicans in the November 2018 mid-term elections." If the Republican Senate majority is at risk, some legal experts say, they "may need to move even more quickly on getting judges confirmed by the Senate for their lifetime posts."

CHC REJECTS CURBELO'S BID FOR MEMBERSHIP. [McClatchy](#) (11/16, Daugherty, 67K) reports that Republican Rep. Carlos Curbelo has been denied membership in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, a group "made up strictly of Democrats." The CHC voted Thursday to reject

Curbelo's attempt to gain membership, "saying some members are concerned about his stance on immigration." After the vote, Curbelo issued a statement saying, "It is truly shameful the Congressional Hispanic Caucus has decided to build a wall around the organization to exclude Hispanic-Americans who aren't registered in the Democratic Party. ... This sends a powerful and harmful message of discrimination, bigotry, and division. Unbelievably, petty partisan interests have led the CHC to formally endorse the segregation of American Hispanics. It is a dark day on Capitol Hill. However, this only strengthens my commitment to working with my colleagues on both sides to urgently seek a solution for young immigrants in the DACA Program."

The [Washington Times](#) (11/16, Dinan, 541K) says the CHC "defended" its decision "saying the caucus isn't about ethnicity but instead about sharing liberal viewpoints." Spokesman Carlos Paz Jr. said in a statement, "The CHC isn't just an organization for Hispanics; it is a Caucus that represents certain values. This vote reflects the position of many of our members that Rep. Curbelo and his record are not consistent with those values."

In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/16, Board, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) criticizes the decision, saying that while the group can set its own rules, Curbelo's rejection confirms criticisms that the group has less to do with promoting Hispanic interests than pushing a liberal Democratic agenda.

NYTIMES ANALYSIS: LAW PASSED FOR PUERTO RICO'S FISCAL CRISIS HINDERS HURRICANE RECOVERY. The [New York Times](#) (11/16, Walsh, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports in its "DealBook" column that Congress, amid Puerto Rico's fiscal crisis last year, "passed special legislation to give it relief from creditors and time to find its financial footing." Now, "a key piece of that legislation is hampering efforts to address the lingering effects of Hurricane Maria – and possibly threatening Puerto Rico's broader economic comeback as well." The law, which "placed Puerto Rico under the oversight of a federal board and subjected its debt to a court-supervised restructuring," pieced together "provisions reflecting the island's status as a self-governing United States territory and parts of Chapter 9." However, Chapter 9 "greatly limits the authority that bankruptcy court judges and other federal officials can exert over insolvent local governments." The Times adds that the implications of the decision "are becoming clearer as relief efforts in Puerto Rico sputter along."

CORNYN SPEARHEADING PUSH FOR BIPARTISAN GUN BACKGROUND CHECK BILL. [NBC Nightly News](#) (11/16, story 6, 1:55, Holt, 16.61M) reported that Sen. John Cornyn is leading a bipartisan effort "to shore up the gun background check system." The proposed bill "would give states more money to improve their reporting of background information to the FBI's databases" and "would new standards for the military services and other federal agencies to report court-martial convictions, records that would block a gun purchase." Additionally, "federal officials whose agencies fail to meet new reporting goals would not be eligible for bonus pay." The NRA has already said that it supports the bill.

The [New York Times](#) (11/16, Stolberg, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Cornyn is leading a group of seven senators, including three Democrats and four Republicans. Sen. Chris Murphy is the lead Democratic sponsor. The new bill is called the Fix NICS Act, with NICS being "the acronym for the National Instant Criminal Background Check System."

[USA Today](#) (11/16, Gaudiano, 8.62M) reports Cornyn spoke regarding the bill, saying, "For years agencies and states haven't complied with the law, failing to upload these critical records without consequence. ... Just one record that's not properly reported can lead to tragedy, as the country saw last week in Sutherland Springs, Texas. This bill aims to help fix what's become a nationwide, systemic problem so we can better prevent criminals and domestic abusers from obtaining firearms."

FCC ELIMINATES MEDIA CROSS-OWNERSHIP BAN. The [New York Times](#) (11/16, Kang, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that the FCC eliminated restrictions that prevented a

single company from owning a newspaper, a radio station, and a television station in the same town, also “known as a media cross-ownership ban.” Three Republicans voted to eliminate the rules, while two Democrats voted in favor of preserving them. The FCC also will now allow one company to more easily own two of the largest four television stations in a market, instead of the previous limit of one.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/16, McKinnon, Flint, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) reports that the new rules could provoke greater consolidation among owners of television stations, especially among broadcasting groups like Tegna and Nexstar that have indicated that they would pursue expansion if the rules were loosened. FCC officials denied that the rule change was specifically designed to help the conservative-leaning Sinclair Broadcast Group, which is working on a deal to acquire Tribune Media Co.

AFTER JURY DEADLOCKS, JUDGE DECLARES MISTRIAL IN FEDERAL CORRUPTION TRIAL OF MENENDEZ. The judge in the federal corruption trial of Sen. Bob Menendez (D-NJ) and his longtime friend and donor, eye doctor Salomon Melgen, on Thursday declared a mistrial, after the jury could not reach a verdict. The [CBS Evening News](#) (11/16, story 4, 1:50, Mason, 11.17M) reported, “The jury in Newark was hopelessly deadlocked after six days of deliberations.” CBS’ Anna Werner added, “The Justice Department has not said whether it will try Menendez a second time.” In a brief segment, [NBC Nightly News](#) (11/16, story 5, 0:25, Holt, 16.61M) reported, “Prosecutors haven’t said whether they’ll retry” Menendez, “but the Senate Ethics Committee said it will reopen an inquiry.” [ABC World News Tonight](#) (11/16, story 6, 0:20, Muir, 14.63M) reported, “No word yet on whether prosecutors will try again.”

The [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) (11/16, Tamari, Seidman, Roebuck, 1.71M) reports that “one of the jurors said that 10 of the 12 panel members wanted to acquit, noting that there was ‘no smoking gun’ in the evidence the government presented.” The [Bergen \(NJ\) Record](#) (11/16, Pugliese) reports that the outcome raises “questions about the strength of the government’s case but fail[s] to lift the legal cloud that has hung over the senator for more than two years.”

The [AP](#) (11/16, Catalini) reports that Menendez “exited his federal bribery trial after a mistrial Thursday with an eye on a 2018 re-election effort, but with him neither acquitted nor convicted, the cloud from the investigation remains. The mistrial gave Democrats hoping to hold onto the seat in next year’s midterm elections cause for optimism and spurred Republicans to keep the pressure up.” Indeed, Senate Majority Leader McConnell on Thursday “called on the Ethics Committee to investigate Menendez for possible violations of the public trust and the Senate code of conduct.”

The [Washington Post](#) (11/16, Maimon, Barrett, 10.38M) reports that speaking outside the courthouse, Menendez said, “Today is Resurrection Day.” However, his “jubilation may be short-lived. Justice Department officials said they would review the case to decide whether to put him on trial again, and [McConnell] called for a Senate ethics probe based on the charges in the case.”

The [New York Times](#) (11/16, Corasaniti, Schweber, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that the mistrial “leaves Mr. Menendez, 63, safely in the Senate, denying Gov. Chris Christie of New Jersey the opportunity to appoint a replacement and further tip the scales for Republicans in the Senate. But Mr. Menendez, who has been in the Senate for 12 years, emerges from the trial politically wounded as he prepares to campaign for a usually safe Democratic seat. Now, whoever challenges him will surely make Mr. Menendez’s ethics a key attack line.” [Reuters](#) (11/16, Ax) reports that with Thursday’s outcome, “Democrats avoided potentially losing a seat in the U.S. Senate...but now face the risk that a retrial could complicate [Menendez’s] expected 2018 re-election bid.”

[Politico](#) (11/16, Friedman, 3.6M) reported that the mistrial dealt “a blow to the Justice Department and” left Menendez “defiant – but still politically bloodied – heading into 2018.”

Politico added, "A tearful Menendez thanked his supporters and took aim at his critics outside the Newark courthouse. 'To those who were digging my political grave so they could jump into my seat, I know who you are and I won't forget you,' he said."

[Bloomberg News](#) (11/16, Voreacos, Weinberg, 4.52M) reports that Menendez "was alternately thankful to supporters and angry at detractors, appearing to choke back tears more than once. 'What office or department of the federal government gives me back the past two and a half years of my life?' Menendez said. 'Where do I go to have the damage they sought to incur to my reputation?'" [Roll Call](#) (11/16, Lesniewski, 134K), the [New York Post](#) (11/16, DeGregory, Whitehouse, 4.31M), the [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/16, Macmillan, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) and the [Washington Examiner](#) (11/16, Nelson, 465K) are among the other media outlets reporting on the mistrial.

COOK POLITICAL REPORT ANALYSIS: DEMOCRATIC "WAVE IS BUILDING" FOR 2018.

Writing for the [Cook Political Report](#) (11/16), Amy Walter said, "This week, we've seen two polls – one by Quinnipiac and one by Marist – that show Democrats with a congressional ballot advantage of +13 to +15. Three other recent polls – ABC/Washington Post, Fox, and NBC/Wall Street Journal – show Democrats with an advantage of anywhere from +7 to +15. These are political wave numbers." Walter said that in order for Democrats to retake the House, "they need to see a generic ballot advantage of +8 or more, which roughly translates to getting at least 54 percent or more of the national House vote in 2018." Walter added that "Democrats have a narrow path to 24 seats" needed to capture the House – "even with a big wave or tailwind. But, do not ignore what's right in front of us. A wave is building."

CNN Analysis: GOP Governors "Terrified" Of Being Wiped Out In Wave Next Year. On its website, [CNN](#) (11/16, Bradner, 33.59M) reported that GOP "governors sense a wave coming – and they're terrified it could wipe them out in next year's elections. The three dozen GOP governors gathering" in Texas "this week for a Republican Governors Association meeting – including some close allies of President Donald Trump – said they were jarred by Democrats' easy victory in the Virginia governor's race last week." For example, Gov. Asa Hutchinson (R-AR) told CNN, "Just simply the intensity of the opposition – I think that's what was reflected in the Virginia vote. That should be a wake-up call to all of our supporters in the elections next year." However, said CNN, GOP "governors haven't figured out what to do about an increasingly toxic national political environment that led to a surge in Democratic support in the Virginia suburbs last week."

[Bloomberg News](#) (11/16, McCormick, 4.52M) reported, "Republican governors and their donors – still reeling from GOP losses last week in New Jersey and Virginia – are trying to distance themselves from their party's problems and plot a 2018 strategy to protect their state-level dominance." However, GOP governors at the RGA gathering "downplayed those defeats and dismissed the political fallout of President Donald Trump's historically low approval ratings and lack of legislative accomplishments." Bloomberg News added, "Even if Trump's popularity wasn't an issue, Republicans are likely to face headwinds next year based on past trends. Midterm elections for a new president generally result in losses, sometimes big ones, and Trump currently has the lowest approval ratings of any president at this point in a first term."

Democratic Strategist Sosnik: Left Has Won Party Power Fight. In a [Washington Post](#) (11/16, Sosnik, 10.38M) op-ed, veteran Democratic political strategist Doug Sosnik, who was a senior adviser to President Bill Clinton from 1994-2000, says, "There's been lots of talk about a supposed civil war brewing within the Democratic Party, as its centrist and progressive wings vie for power. But at least as a matter of presidential politics...the eventual victor is clear: By the end of the 2020 presidential primaries, an increasingly liberal grass-roots activist base is likely to have gained full control of the party." Sosnik adds, "It is difficult to overstate the depth and breadth of the move to the left on social and economic policies among Democrats since Bill Clinton's presidency. The Pew Values Survey released last month found that the percentage of Democrats and Democratic leaners who express liberal or mostly liberal political values exploded from 30

percent in 1994 to 73 percent in 2017."

Democratic Pollster Penn: To Win, Party Must Take Steps To Attract "Moderate Candidates." In a [Washington Post](#) (11/16, Penn, 10.38M) op-ed, Mark Penn, who served as senior adviser and pollster to Bill and Hillary Clinton from 1995-2008, said, "Last week's Democratic mini-wave" demonstrated "that moderate candidates offer the best chance for a bigger victory in 2018 and beyond. And to attract these candidates, Democrats need to fix their party." Among the fixes suggested by Penn are for the Democratic Party to "back more open primaries"; "eliminate caucuses and superdelegates from the presidential nominating process"; and to allow "the order of the first five presidential primaries" to "be picked by lot 12 months ahead of time." Penn adds, "The difference between victory and defeat in these upcoming elections likely hinges on whether the party can attract and get behind moderate candidates – and whether the party can reform itself."

SCOTT "UNCHARACTERISTICALLY NON-COMMITTAL" ON TRUMP'S 2018 IMPACT.

Writing on the website of the [Tampa Bay \(FL\) Times](#) (11/16, 877K), Michael Van Sickler said that Gov. Rick Scott (R-FL), who is term-limited in 2018 and is considering a bid to unseat Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL), has been an "enthusiastic supporter" of President Trump. Scott is chairman of "a Trump super PAC and often touts his friendship with" the President, said Van Sickler. However, citing a CNN [report](#), Van Sickler said that "during this week's Republican Governors Association meeting in" Texas, Scott has been "uncharacteristically non-committal about what Trump could mean for his political fortunes. According to CNN, when asked if Trump will help or hurt candidates on the campaign trail, Scott replied 'We'll see what happens in 2018.'" And responding to a question on whether "Trump could help other Republicans on the 2018 ballots, Scott said only 'You'd have to ask them.'"

CHRISTIAN TV EXECUTIVE JACOBSON ANNOUNCES PRIMARY CHALLENGE TO CRUZ.

The [Fort Worth \(TX\) Star-Telegram](#) (11/16, Tinsley, 399K) reports that Christian TV executive Bruce Jacobson Jr. (R) on Thursday announced a 2018 primary challenge to Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX). The Star-Telegram adds, "This highly anticipated battle in the Republican primary is expected to be a big-dollar race. ... A Fort Worth-based super PAC has been raising money to help Jacobson's campaign against Cruz, who...has more than \$6 million raised for his re-election campaign." Jacobson "worked in the U.S. Department of Transportation under President Ronald Reagan, and served as a deputy regional representative for the Department of Labor under President George H. W. Bush. He also served as a director of a Regional Emergency Management Team during the Bush administration."

FORMER TRUMP LAWYER COULD DEFEND AT&T-TIME WARNER MERGER. [Reuters](#)

(11/16, Bartz, Freifield) reports that Daniel Petrocelli, a media lawyer who once defended President Trump during fraud lawsuits regarding Trump University, will defend both Time Warner and AT&T in court if the government sues to stop the latter's acquisition of the former. Petrocelli, "a partner at O'Melveny & Myers in Los Angeles," was hired by AT&T. Petrocelli has also represented Time Warner in the past.

KOCH-BACKED MEREDITH CORP. MAY LOOK TO ACQUIRE TIME INC. The [Los Angeles Times](#)

(11/16, Peltz, 4.49M) reports that "Meredith Corp., which publishes Family Circle and Better Homes and Gardens among other titles, recently approached Time Inc. about a deal, armed with more than \$500 million in financing from Charles and David Koch." Observers are unsure if the Kochs would attempt to use Time Magazine as a megaphone for their own political views, or if they would run it in a hands-off fashion more similar to how Jeff Bezos operates the Washington Post. Two Meredith executives have denied that talks are underway.

KEYSTONE PIPELINE LEAKS OIL IN SOUTH DAKOTA. The [AP](#) (11/16, Dexter) reports that "TransCanada Corp.'s Keystone pipeline leaked an estimated 210,000 gallons of oil onto agricultural land in northeastern South Dakota," although officials in South Dakota "don't believe the leak polluted any surface water bodies or drinking water systems." Regulators in Nebraska

"are scheduled to announce their decision Monday whether to approve the proposed Keystone XL oil pipeline, an expansion that would boost the amount of oil TransCanada is now shipping through the existing line." TransCanada indicated "in its statement that it expected the pipeline to remain shut down as the company responds to the leak."

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (11/16, story 4, 0:15, Muir, 14.63M) reported that "officials say the cleanup could take some time." The [New York Times](#) (11/16, Smith, Bosman, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) reports that Kim McIntosh, an environmental scientist for the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources, said, "This is not a little spill from any perspective."

The [Washington Post](#) (11/16, Mufson, Mooney, 10.38M) reports that Jane Kleebe, an activist who opposed Keystone XL and is also head of Nebraska's Democratic Party, said, "TransCanada cannot be trusted. ... I have full confidence that the Nebraska Public Service Commission is going to side with Nebraskans, not a foreign oil company."

BARRACK'S STARWOOD WAYPOINT FACES COMPLAINTS FROM TENANTS. [ABC World News Tonight](#) (11/16, story 7, 2:35, Muir, 14.63M) aired an investigative report on the "giant real estate rental company Starwood Waypoint, co-founded by a billionaire friend of President Trump," Tom Barrack. The company "is now dogged by complaints of shoddy maintenance, and an aggressive eviction policy." ABC's Brian Ross reported, "The Better Business Bureau gives the company a grade of D+ and reporters at ABC TV stations across the country heard lots of complaints. ... Tenants also told us the company is quick to threaten eviction, even if a tenant is only a few days late with the rent. When it happens, they can end up in court and have to pay additional fees and the company's lawyers to stave off eviction."

PROFESSORS LOBBY FOR DIFFERENT APPROACH TO REFORMING ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT. Peter Alagona, "an associate professor of history, geography and environmental studies at the University of California at Santa Barbara," and James Salzman, the Donald Bren Distinguished Professor of Environmental Law at the UCLA School of Law and UCSB's Bren School of the Environment, assert in an op-ed in the [Washington Post](#) (11/16, Alagona, Salzman, 10.38M) that five bills currently in Congress that seek to weaken the Endangered Species Act would not "make the law more efficient or effective." The two academics opine that "the fundamental political problem with the act is that its incentives don't match its ethics," and they propose shifting funds or providing "deductions for landowners who successfully enhance and maintain their habitat for endangered species." The two conclude by declaring that "reform is not a binary choice between weakening the law or keeping the status quo. There is a better path."

AUTHOR WEIGHS IN ON DEBATE OVER STATUE REMOVAL. Author Sarah Vowell opines in a 1223 word op-ed in the [New York Times](#) (11/16, Vowell, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) that the debate over which statutes to dismantle and which to keep could become increasingly more complex as time passes. Vowell recounts stories of American Indians who fought with the Confederacy and their own decisions regarding statutes of people from that era to put the debate in a new perspective. Vowell also mentions that controversial statues of Christopher Columbus may not have been erected with hateful intentions, but as symbols of civic pride for oppressed Italian-Americans.

Editorial Wrap-Up:

NEW YORK TIMES. "A Tax Cut Bill To Make Scrooge McDuck Proud." The [New York Times](#) (11/16, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) editorializes, "Let that sink in. This tax bill would take money from working families and give it to the wealthiest people in the world. ... Republicans have made clear where their values lie. Well-heeled campaign funders matter. Middle-class families don't."

"The Da Vinci Lode." A [New York Times](#) (11/16, Subscription Publication, 13.56M) editorial.

WASHINGTON POST. “The Destructive Part Of The Republican Tax Bill You’re Not Paying Attention To.” A [Washington Post](#) (11/16, 10.38M) editorial says the “assault on higher education” in the House tax bill “is one of the less- examined unwise provisions in a tax bill full of unwise provisions.” The bill would require graduate students to “treat tuition waivers as taxable income.” While that “bad idea” is not in the Senate bill, it “contains other provisions that would undermine the nation’s colleges and universities.” For example, both plans “would slap a 1.4 percent excise tax on investment income that universities earn on endowments that Republicans deem to be too large,” a provision which “would mainly hit elite institutions,” that are “generally the ones that offer the most tuition aid to students from needy – and even securely middle-class – families.”

“Al Franken Is Just The Start Of Congress’s Reckoning With Sexual Harassment.” The [Washington Post](#) (11/16, 10.38M) editorializes that as the Senate Ethics panel “looks into [Sen. Al] Franken’s behavior, it will have to consider what comes next. What level of misconduct merits a lawmaker’s departure from Congress? Should the legislature have a zero-tolerance policy, or can gradations of offense be recognized? If a member’s wrongdoing took place entirely before his time on the Hill, should that affect continued service?” The Post adds that “members of the House of Representatives should be asking these same questions,” and that “both Democrats and Republicans should support measures to hold predators to account, provide victims with support and make clear that all people deserve to be treated with respect.”

“The Pentagon Has Detained A US Citizen For More Than Two Months – And Said Little.” The [Washington Post](#) (11/16, Board, 10.38M) editorializes that the US government must provide an American citizen, who has been detained in Iraq for over two months on suspicion of aiding the Islamic State, “with legal counsel and access to the justice system if he wishes it.” The Post also calls on the Pentagon to make basic information about the case public “in the spirit of accountability and transparency.” The Post asserts that “it can’t be the case that the government is effectively allowed to block the courts from reviewing a person’s detention by keeping the prisoner anonymous and incommunicado.”

WALL STREET JOURNAL. “A Solution For Ron Johnson.” Citing Sen. Ron Johnson’s concern over the bill’s treatment of large corporations versus “pass through” business, which are taxed at the individual rate, a [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/16, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) editorial says President Trump’s call to reduce the top rate to 35% could be the solution to win Johnson’s support because a 35% rate would provide a more powerful incentive for growth against the Senate bill’s 17.4% pass-through deduction than the Senate bill’s current 38.5% top rate.

“No Republicans Need Apply.” In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/16, Board, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) criticizes the Congressional Hispanic Caucus’ decision to reject Republican Rep. Carlos Curbelo’s bid for membership, saying that while the group can set its own rules, Curbelo’s rejection confirms criticisms that the group has less to do with promoting Hispanic interests than pushing a liberal Democratic agenda.

“Trump’s South China Sea Message.” In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (11/16, Subscription Publication, 6.45M) praises President Trump for his challenging China on its territorial aspirations in the South China Sea. The Journal focuses on China’s conflicts in the area with Vietnam and Philippines, and concludes by lauding Trump for seeking to keep shipping lanes open and deter Chinese territorial expansion.

The Big Picture:

HEADLINES FROM TODAY’S FRONT PAGES.

Wall Street Journal:

[Comcast Approached 21st Century Fox About An Acquisition](#)
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[Al Franken Issues Apology After Accusation Of Forcible Kissing And Groping](#)
[Alabama GOP Says It Stands Behind Roy Moore](#)
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[Downing North Korean Missiles Is Hard. So The US Is Experimenting.](#)

Washington Post:

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[CEO Nightmare: Dreaded Endorsement Of The Alt-Right](#)
[House Passes Tax Bill, Upping Heat On Senate](#)
[Al Franken Accused Of Groping Woman In 2006](#)
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Financial Times:

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Washington Times:

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Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Al Franken Sexual Misconduct Allegation; Roy Moore Sexual Misconduct Allegations; Tax Reform Plan; Keystone Pipeline Oil Leak; Russia Meddling Investigation-Kushner; Robert Menendez Trial; Starwood Waypoint-Complaints; Black Friday Shopping; Baltimore-Police Officer Shot; California House Explosion; Weather Forecast; Da Vinci Painting Auction.

CBS: Al Franken Sexual Misconduct Allegation; Roy Moore Sexual Misconduct Allegations; Tax Reform Plan; Robert Menendez Trial; Russia Meddling Investigation-Kushner; Russia-Crimea Occupation; Distracted Drivers; Baltimore-Police Officer Shot; Elephant Trophies Ban Reversed; Amazon Key-Security Concerns; Da Vinci Painting Auction; Bike Riding Benefits.

NBC: Al Franken Sexual Misconduct Allegation; Roy Moore Sexual Misconduct Allegations; Tax Reform Plan; Russia Meddling Investigation-Kushner; Robert Menendez Trial; Baltimore-Police Officer Shot; Congress-Gun Control; Russia Meddling Investigation-Russian Troll Farm; DC Bible Museum Opening; Elephant Trophies Ban Reversed; California House Explosion; Da Vinci Painting Auction; Kansas Town Revival.

Network TV At A Glance:

Roy Moore Sexual Misconduct Allegations – 8 minutes, 35 seconds
Al Franken Sexual Misconduct Allegation – 8 minutes, 15 seconds
Tax Reform Plan – 7 minutes
Russia Meddling Investigation – 5 minutes, 30 seconds
Robert Menendez Trial – 2 minutes, 35 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: Ohio State University-Hazing; Tax Reform Plan; Roy Moore Sexual Misconduct Allegations; Al Franken Sexual Misconduct Allegation.

CBS: Tax Reform Plan; Al Franken Sexual Misconduct Allegation; Roy Moore Sexual Misconduct Allegations; VA-PTSD Waiting List; Keystone Pipeline Oil Leak; Latin Grammy Awards.

FOX: Roy Moore Sexual Misconduct Allegations; Al Franken Sexual Misconduct Allegation; Tax Reform Plan.

NPR: Tax Reform Plan; Robert Menendez Trial; Al Franken Sexual Misconduct Allegation; FCC-Media Ownership.

Last Laughs:

LATE NIGHT POLITICAL HUMOR.

Jimmy Kimmel: "Meanwhile, here on Earth, the House passed the GOP-backed tax plan today, which is very good news for billionaires and also just your average run-of-the-millionaires too. The bill would shift the tax burden from the wealthy to people who really should be paying more, like college students. Time for those little punks to start eating bottom ramen for a while."

Jimmy Kimmel: "The President is also about to reverse a law that made it illegal to import elephant parts from African trophy hunts. That's right, struggling families of America, you asked for it, and the President delivered. We can finally bring our elephant tusks back home from Zimbabwe."

Jimmy Kimmel: "Roy Moore has been accused of sexual misconduct and worse by nine women, seven of whom were teenagers when the events allegedly happened. But when Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell called for him to step aside, this is how he responded on Twitter. He wrote, 'Dear Mitch McConnell, bring it on.' Now I'm not an expert in PR, but when you're accused of putting moves on high school girls, maybe don't reference the title of a movie about high school cheerleaders."

Jimmy Kimmel: "There are a bunch of new accusations made today against a wide variety of people, including Sylvester Stallone, the first PBS, and Senator Al Franken, whose story was amplified because it had a visual aid."

Jimmy Kimmel: "There is so much of this [sexual harassment news]. I mean, at this point I know it sounds extreme, but it might be time for guys, I think, we might all need to hand our penises over to the police for a few months."

Stephen Colbert: "Every day, it seems like we find out about another high-profile sexual harasser. And today is no exception. Brace yourself, because it is Sen. Al Franken. He's been accused of kissing and groping a woman without her consent. Come on, Franken! I guess there are no good people left, so let's just get it over with. Just tell us whatever you did, Jimmy Carter, Barack Obama, Tom Hanks."

Stephen Colbert: "Moore isn't afraid of the Washington Republicans, tweeting, 'Dear Mitch McConnell, bring it on.' A strong sentiment, leading the head of the National Republican Senatorial Committee to tweet, "'Bring It On' is a movie about high school cheerleaders."

James Corden: "Have you guys been following this story about the UCLA basketball players who were arrested in China for shoplifting? Well, President Trump helped get them released, and yesterday they publicly thanked him. So today, Donald Trump tweeted, 'To the three UCLA basketball players I say, You're welcome.' He also tweeted, 'Have a great life be careful, there are many pitfalls on the long and winding road of life!' There are many pitfalls on the long and winding road of life? The guy goes on one presidential trip to Asia, and now he's writing Chinese proverbs."

James Corden: “[Donald Trump] is right, though. There are so many pitfalls on the long and winding road of life. For example, there’s bankruptcy, and there are lawsuits against a scam business you started. Then there’s bankruptcy a second time. Then there’s the FBI investigating you about Russia. And then bankruptcy again.”

James Corden: “A piece of wedding cake from Donald and Melania Trump’s wedding is currently up for auction. The 12-year-old piece of cake is being marketed as a rare collector’s item. I can’t believe it lasted this long. Not the cake, the marriage.”

Trevor Noah: [Referring to sexual misconduct allegations of Sen. Al Franken and Senate candidate Roy Moore] “Al Franken is going with the whole ‘I’m sorry, I’m going to look at myself. I understand this disgusting.’ That’s so boring. This guy is like, ‘You know who needs to step down for what I did? Someone else!’”

Jimmy Fallon: “Radio host Leeann Tweeden came forward and said Sen. Al Franken groped her without her consent. And she posted a photo as evidence. In fact, it’s so bad that Franken is already a front-runner for President in 2020.”

Jimmy Fallon: “Meanwhile, it’s been reported Alabama Senate candidate Roy Moore would hang out in the mall in the ‘80s and try to get teenagers’ phone numbers. He got a lot of numbers, but they were all for ‘Jenny at 867-5309.’”

Jimmy Fallon: “It’s crazy, though, two more women have come forward accusing Roy Moore of making unwanted advances at the mall, which explains that new slogan, ‘Amazon, so you don’t run into Roy Moore at the mall.’”

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Sender:	Bulletin Intelligence <HHS@BulletinIntelligence.com>
Recipient:	<HHS@bulletinintelligence.com>
Sent Date:	2017/11/17 07:29:13
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From:	Bulletin Intelligence <HHS@BulletinIntelligence.com>
To:	<HHS@bulletinintelligence.com>
Subject:	HHS News Briefing for Thursday, August 10, 2017
Date:	2017/08/10 07:36:38
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

HHS NEWS BRIEFING

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TO: THE SECRETARY AND SENIOR STAFF

DATE: THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2017 7:30 AM EDT

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Leading the News:

TRUMP, OTHER CONSERVATIVES CRITICIZE MCCONNELL FOR FAILING TO PASS ACA REPEAL BILL. The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Wagner, 12.92M) reports that on Wednesday, President Trump “took a shot at Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), pointedly asking on Twitter why congressional Republicans had failed after seven years of promises to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.” He tweeted, “Senator Mitch McConnell said I had ‘excessive expectations,’ but I don’t think so. ... After 7 years of hearing Repeal & Replace, why not done?” Likewise, Dan Scavino Jr., the White House social media director, criticized McConnell in a tweet, saying, “More excuses. ... @SenateMajLdr must have needed another 4 years – in addition to the 7 years – to repeal and replace Obamacare.....”

[USA Today](#) (8/9, Collins, 10.05M) reports that Scavino was responding “to a clip of Majority Leader Mitch McConnell blaming Trump for setting ‘early timelines’ as one of the reasons that people believe Congress is getting nothing done.”

The [AP](#) (8/9, Fram) also reports on Scavino’s comments, and says Fox News Host Sean Hannity, a staunch ally of Trump, criticized McConnell, tweeting, “@SenateMajLdr No Senator, YOU are a WEAK, SPINELESS leader who does not keep his word and you need to Retire!”

The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Flegenheimer, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that before Trump posted his tweet, he spoke with McConnell on the phone “to express his disappointment in the senator’s comments, according to a person with knowledge of the call.” During the call, Trump “emphasized that he would continue to push for a repeal, the person said, and suggested Mr. McConnell do the same.” [The Hill](#) (8/9, Manchester, 1.61M) and the [Washington Examiner](#) (8/9, Jessen, 403K) also report on the call, citing the Times.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (8/9, Bierman, 4.57M) describes an “escalating fight” between Trump and McConnell “over who is to blame for the Republican Party’s failure to repeal Obamacare,” and highlights that the “public nature of the intra-party fight is unusual.”

[Bloomberg News](#) (8/9, Kapur, Litvan, 3.08M) reports that this “back-and-forth highlights the starkly different governing styles of Trump and the Senate Republican leader.” Trump’s “freewheeling and off-the-cuff actions contrast with McConnell’s rigorously disciplined method of leading the Senate.”

[The Hill](#) (8/9, Carney, 1.61M) reports that these “public shots” between Trump and McConnell “follow growing conservative criticism of McConnell, who has become a target for two right-wing candidates in the Alabama Senate race.” The article says Republicans who are “suspicious of McConnell have used his failure to win a victory on ObamaCare repeal against him,” and for the moment, at least, Trump is their ally.

[Politico](#) (8/9, McCaskill, 2.97M) says “frequent Trump critic” Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) “also came to the president’s defense, calling it ‘ridiculous’ for McConnell to blame Trump’s impatience and inexperience for the public sense that Congress hasn’t done much.”

In a separate article, [The Hill](#) (8/9, Manchester, 1.61M) reports that Graham “blasted” McConnell “for saying President Trump had ‘excessive expectations’ on repealing ObamaCare.” Graham stated, “I like Mitch, but for eight years we’ve been saying we’re going to repeal and replace Obamacare. It’s not like we made this up overnight.”

Also covering the story are the [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Tau, Subscription Publication, 6.99M), the [Los Angeles Times](#) (8/9, Bierman, 4.57M), the [Washington Times](#) (8/9, Dinan, 458K), the website of [CNN](#) (8/9, 44.83M), [Politico](#) (8/9, Tesfamichael, 2.97M), the [Washington Examiner](#) (8/9, Giaritelli, 403K), a second article by the [Washington Examiner](#) (8/9, King, 403K), [The Hill](#) (8/9, Savransky, 1.61M), a second article by the [Washington Times](#) (8/9, Boyer, 458K), the [Huffington Post](#) (8/9, Marans, 6.63M), [TIME](#) (8/9, Reilly, 6.82M), [NPR](#) (8/9, Taylor, 3.51M), the

[New York Post](#) (8/9, Fredericks, 3.2M), the [Daily Intelligencer \(NY\)](#) (8/9, Levitz, 1.33M), and [Roll Call](#) (8/9, Lesniewski, 91K).

BIPARTISAN GROUP OF POLICY EXPERTS SEEKS TO STABILIZE ACA. The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Goldstein, 12.92M) reports “an unlikely” group of liberal and conservative health-policy leaders wants “Congress to strengthen the existing health-care law in a variety of ways to help Americans get and keep insurance.” In particular, the experts are “urging the government...to continuing paying all the federal subsidies provided under the Affordable Care Act and to help Americans enroll in coverage.” The coalition also wants lawmakers to renew funding for the Children’s Health Insurance Program. On Wednesday, the group unveiled “a five-point set of principles” which “lays out a potential bipartisan path forward after a Republican strategy to tilt federal health policies in more conservative directions failed in the Senate last month.”

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Hackman, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports that the coalition is comprised of top advisers to former Presidents from both parties. On Wednesday, the group’s leaders indicated they would present their plan to lawmakers such as Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN), chairman of the Senate Health Committee, and Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA), the committee’s ranking Democrat, whose proposal includes similar objectives.

[Vox](#) (8/9, Kliff, 1.5M) reports that this new plan seeks “to bring more stability to the Obamacare marketplaces by securing funding for key health law subsidies and ensuring strong enforcement of the individual mandate.” In a concession “to conservative priorities, it would also allow states more flexibility to pursue experimental waivers and higher contributions to tax-advantaged health savings accounts.”

The Secretary in the News:

PRICE’S COMMENTS SUGGEST ADMINISTRATION MAY BE OPEN TO BIPARTISAN EFFORTS TO REPAIR ACA. The [Los Angeles Times](#) (8/9, Bierman, 4.57M) reports that on Wednesday, the Trump Administration “shifted” its tone, “opening the door for a bipartisan plan to ‘fix’” the Affordable Care Act. HHS Secretary Tom Price said during a Fox interview, “Both folks in the House and the Senate, on both sides of the aisle frankly, have said that Obamacare doesn’t work. ... And it needs to be either repealed or fixed.” The article says this reference to repairing the ACA “is new.”

The [Washington Times](#) (8/9, Persons, 458K) also quotes Price as saying, “The fact that Congress didn’t act earlier this month doesn’t mean that the problem goes away. So what we’re looking for is patient-centered health care where patients and families and doctors are making decisions not Washington, D.C.” He added that about 40 percent of counties will have only one insurer, which is tantamount to not having any choice.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (8/9, King, 403K) reports Price also said, “It is incumbent upon Congress to come back to town, when they come back to town, and get to work and make certain we move in a much better direction from a healthcare standpoint.”

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION PROPOSES ELIMINATING FUNDING FOR TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION PROGRAM. The [New York Times](#) (8/10, Belluck, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports the Trump Administration has proposed eliminating funding for the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program, which funds efforts across the country to teach teenagers about contraception, sexually transmitted diseases, and abstinence. The Department of Health and Human Services is already “curtailing the projects.” The article says health officials in “20 large cities are protesting, writing to Tom Price, the health and human services secretary, that cutting funding ‘will not only reverse historic gains made in the U.S. in reducing teen pregnancy rates, but also make it difficult to truly understand what practices are most effective.’”

The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Cha, 12.92M) reports that the officials expressed concern that the

loss of funding could exacerbate already high teen pregnancy rates in some cities, while the American Civil Liberties Union's national political director denounced the Administration's approach toward "women's reproductive rights."

The [Washington Times](#) (8/9, Howell, 458K) reports 81 recipients of federal Teen Pregnancy Prevention grants have expressed concern over President Trump's cuts to the program, with "big-city health department chiefs" saying they would jeopardize their ability to determine which initiatives lower pregnancy rates among teenage girls. HHS said it identified the \$100 million-per-year program for budget cuts after conducting a "rigorous evaluation," saying three of its "programs demonstrated negative effects on teen behavior," although Senate Democrats told HHS Secretary Tom Price last month that the agency's decision to shorten the program grant period was "highly unusual."

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION MUST DECIDE HOW IT WILL MANAGE THE ACA. [The Hill](#) (8/10, Sullivan, 1.61M) reports that following the Senate's failure to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the Trump Administration "has sent mixed signals" regarding "whether it will seek to actively undermine" the ACA. Though President Trump at one point tweeted to let the ACA "implode," the article says HHS Secretary Tom Price on ABC's "This Week" recently "said Trump's 'implode' remark simply 'punctuates the concern that he has about getting this moved in the right direction.'" The Hill adds that Price, on NBC, said that the Administration has a "responsibility to follow the law," and the article continues, "Despite the uncertainty, much of the routine work" on the ACA at HHS "is proceeding as normal."

OPINION: TRUMP ADMINISTRATION NOT TREATING OPIOID CRISIS LIKE "AN ABSOLUTE PRIORITY." Noicole Lewis writes in the [Washington Post](#) (8/9, 12.92M) "The Fix" blog that the President Trump's actions belie HHS Secretary Tom Price's statement Tuesday that the opioid crisis is "an absolute priority of [Trump's] administration, as it has been from day one." Lewis criticizes the Trump Administration's budget for its proposed cuts to Medicaid, saying the program "plays a major role in combating the crisis." Lewis also criticizes the Administration's focus on battling the opioid crisis by building a wall to help prevent drugs from crossing the southern border, saying "advocates for changing drug policy argue focusing on the supply side of the issue hasn't been effective."

OPINION: DECLARATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY OVER OPIOID EPIDEMIC IS UNNECESSARY. Paige Winfield Cunningham writes in the [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Winfield, 12.92M) in "The Health 202" blog that US Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price "has a point" when he says the nation has the resources to address the opioid crisis "without the declaration of emergency." According to some experts, Cunningham says, a declaration of an emergency would be largely "symbolic" and probably would not open up a significant amount of extra funding.

WPOST: TRUMP UNDERCUT HIS WORDS ON PREVENTION WITH ATTACK ON OBAMA. The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, 12.92M) editorializes that at his briefing on the opioid crisis on Tuesday, "after an appropriate nod to prevention, which is indeed a potentially efficient means of stemming the epidemic," President Trump "launched an extended attack on his predecessor's record," politicizing an issue Democrats and Republicans had worked together. The move was of "dubious logic" as "for much if not most of" Barack Obama's presidency, "users obtained opioids through legal channels" the Obama Administration sought to clamp down on "through tightened national prescribing guidelines late in his term." The Post notes that HHS Secretary Tom Price, who accompanied the President, confirmed the Administration would not declare the epidemic a national emergency, despite recommendations to do so from the President's "own commission on the opioid crisis."

EDITORIAL: TRUMP IGNORING SOLUTION TO OPIOID CRISIS IN FAVOR OF "PREDICTABLE" RHETORIC. The [San Francisco Chronicle](#) (8/9, 2.64M) in an editorial chastises President Trump for "snubbing" his opioid commission's recommendations to increase

research and treatment for opioid abuse and to designate the epidemic a national emergency. The Chronicle says that Trump, in "his tired and predictable way," is "assigning blame to his predecessor" and reiterating interest in former, unsuccessful initiatives rather than pursuing new research and treatment funding. The Chronicle also frowns upon HHS Secretary Tom Price's agreement with the President in opting against declaring the epidemic a national emergency.

PRICE BOOED WHILE THROWING FIRST PITCH AT BASEBALL GAME. [The Hill](#) (8/9, Thomsen, 1.61M) reports Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price "was booed as he threw out the first pitch at the Washington Nationals Game" on Wednesday. Attendees of the baseball game tweeted about the negative reaction to Price's appearance, some noting the "small pre-game crowd."

[Washington Examiner](#) (8/9, Jessen, 403K) also reports.

HHS in the News:

SLAVITT DISCUSSES ACA DURING INTERVIEW. The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Cox, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) interviews former Acting CMS Administrator Andy Slavitt about the ACA. He said about Senate Republicans' failure to repeal the ACA, "We have an administration and a majority party that were conspiring to try to pass a bill that even the people voting for it acknowledged they hoped would never become law, all through a process that only had two hours of review and no evaluation. Forty-nine senators still voted for it. We are on the brink of allowing ourselves to make bad policy decisions based on obscure political pressures." Asked what was the "most misunderstood aspect" of the ACA, Slavitt responded, "Most people don't pay the headline premiums that the Republicans have done a good job of defining in the media." He added, "Republicans need to understand: The things they did not only to not support the law but also to take actions that caused several million people not to get Medicaid...are things that could've played out very, very differently."

HHS CONDUCTING "STATE BY STATE" MEDICAID WAIVER NEGOTIATIONS, OFFICIAL SAYS. The [Worcester \(MA\) Business Journal](#) (8/9, 117K) reports that "state by state" Medicaid waiver negotiations are "a key aspect of the Trump" Administration's plan to bolster insurance markets, according to Jane Norton, director of intergovernmental and external affairs for the U.S. Office of Health and Human Services (HHS). Norton said that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is attempting to perform "quick" yet "thorough" reviews of each waiver request. The article adds that Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker is seeking a waiver for changes that would move "roughly 140,000 adults off of Medicaid and onto subsidized health plans offered by the Health Connector."

HHS AWARDS \$5.2 MILLION TO MAINE HEAD START PROVIDER. The [AP](#) (8/9, 200K) reports that the US Department of Health and Human Services awarded "nearly \$5.2 million" in "funding for Head Start and Early Head Start programs" to Maine provider Community Concepts Inc., according to Maine's US senators. The article adds that "Head Start encourages school readiness and promotes health, nutritional and social services for preschoolers and their families."

NCQA REQUESTS MACRA CHANGE TO REDUCE CLINICIANS' REPORTING BURDEN. [Fierce Healthcare](#) (8/9, Finnegan, 146K) reports that the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) issued a letter to Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Seema Verma requesting that CMS change MACRA to provide "an auto-credit for improvement activities" in "the advancing care information category." The article adds that "NCQA- recognized patient-centered medical homes and patient-centered specialty practices" presently receive a similar credit under MACRA. NCQA contends the change would "further reduce the quality reporting burden on clinicians."

AHRQ AWARDS \$2.5 MILLION TO REGENSTRIEF TO DEVELOP IMPROVED MATCHING OF

PATIENTS TO HEALTH DATA. [Healthcare IT News](#) (8/9, Monegain, 3K) reports the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) awarded a “five-year, \$2.5 million grant” to the Regenstrief Institute “for development and testing of automated patient identification approaches.” Regenstrief’s principal investigator for the grant, Shaun Grannis, MD, said, “Statistics show that up to one in five patient records are not accurately matched even within the same healthcare system. As many as half of patient records are mismatched when data is transferred between healthcare systems.”

UNITED THERAPEUTICS FILES LAWSUIT CLAIMING EXCLUSIVE SALES RIGHT FOR TREPROSTINIL SHOULD CONTINUE FOR THREE MORE YEARS. The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Gregg, 12.92M) reports United Therapeutics filed a lawsuit against the federal government claiming that its exclusive right to sell Orenitram [treprostinil] “should continue another three years.” The article explains that the Food and Drug Administration approved a tablet-based version of the drug in 2013, but did not give United “the full seven-year period of exclusivity, saying it had not proven that the oral formulation of the drug is clinically superior to its predecessors.” The article reports that the FDA and the Department of Health and Human Services declined to comment.

OPINION: REPUBLICANS SHOULD APPROACH HEALTHCARE REFORM THE WAY THEY APPROACHED THE FDA REAUTHORIZATION ACT. In an opinion piece, [Forbes](#) (8/9, 14.59M) contributor Doug Schoen writes that Republicans “should approach health care reform” the same way they approached the FDA Reauthorization Act, because it received widespread bipartisan support. Schoen explains that the bill, if signed by President Trump, would provide “pharmaceutical companies a better opportunity to quickly develop cures for diseases and illnesses facing struggling Americans.” Schoen also mentions that the measure includes provisions that would “provide the FDA with the tools it needs to bring forth innovation as fast as possible.”

ATS: FDA TOBACCO REGULATION PLAN WOULD JUST CHANGE FORM OF NICOTINE ADDICTION. Enid R. Neptune, vice chair of the American Thoracic Society’s Tobacco Action Committee, writes in a letter to the editor of the [Washington Post](#) (8/9, 12.92M) that he was “concerned” by the Post’s August 5 editorial, which “embraced Food and Drug Administration Commissioner Scott Gottlieb’s plan for regulating tobacco products.” Neptune says, “Nicotine in any form is bad for your health,” and “flavoring agents and other chemicals in e-cigarettes, when vaporized, are harmful.” He asserts that “Gottlieb appears willing to risk future generations of young people to nicotine addiction by granting Big Tobacco free rein to hook children on e-cigarettes and cigars.” He concludes, “The FDA’s job is to protect youths from all types of tobacco and nicotine addiction, not to negotiate which types of nicotine addiction it will allow.”

22nd Century Group Could Play “Pivotal Role” In FDA’s Strategy To Reduce Nicotine Levels In Cigarettes. The [Winston-Salem \(NC\) Journal](#) (8/9, Craver, 223K) reports that biotechnology company 22nd Century Group “could play a pivotal role in the Food and Drug Administration’s quest to drastically lower nicotine levels in traditional cigarettes.” 22nd Century “said its very-low-nicotine cigarettes contain less than 0.6 milligrams of nicotine per cigarette and less than 0.05 milligrams of nicotine yield per cigarette,” which “represents up to a 97 percent reduction in nicotine levels compared with top-10 traditional cigarette brands.” In addition, the company claims its cigarettes “have the taste and sensory characteristics of conventional cigarettes.” According to the Winston-Salem Journal, “the end result could be 22nd Century gaining federal regulatory approval of its very-low-nicotine cigarettes, which could lead to a sharp jump in revenue and a potential buyout by a global tobacco manufacturer.” The article mentions that FDA Commissioner Dr. Scott Gottlieb “said July 28 that the agency would address potentially adverse effects from lowering nicotine, whether smokers consuming more cigarettes to get the level of nicotine used to, or smokers going to black market sources for higher-level nicotine cigarettes.”

MORE AMERICANS ABUSING ALCOHOL, RESEARCH SUGGESTS. The [Washington Times](#)

(8/9, Kelly, 458K) reports, "Americans, especially women and minorities, are drinking more alcohol amid a public health crisis that is being overshadowed by the opioid epidemic and the debate over legalizing marijuana," researchers concluded. The study, which was conducted by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), revealed that "increased alcohol use, abuse and disorders in all US demographic groups, with higher instances among women, older adults, minorities and those with low levels of education and income." The [findings](#) were published online Aug. 9 in JAMA Psychiatry.

According to [Bloomberg News](#) (8/9, Tozzi, 3.08M), "the number of adults who binge drink at least once a week could be as high as 30 million, greater than the population of every state save California," the study revealed. The overall rise in alcohol consumption "is 'startling,' said" study lead author Bridget F. Grant, PhD, "a researcher at" the NIAAA. Grant added, "We haven't seen these increases for three or four decades."

[MedPage Today](#) (8/9, Boyles, 75K) reports that in arriving at the study's conclusions, "Grant and colleagues compared data from two editions of the National Epidemiologic Survey of Alcohol and Related Conditions – one covering 2001-2002 and the other 2012-2013 – which track alcohol consumption patterns to identify changes in 12-month alcohol use, 12-month high-risk drinking, and 12-month alcohol use disorder." After examining the findings, Grant "noted that alcohol dependence is still widely stigmatized and undertreated in the United States, far more than other mental health disorders." Meanwhile, the author of an accompanying [editorial](#) observed that "proposed cuts to the National Institutes of Health budget would be 'potentially disastrous for future efforts to decrease alcohol problems.'" Funding for the study was provided by the NIAAA and the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Also covering the story are [Reuters](#) (8/9, Seaman) and [TIME](#) (8/9, Sifferlin, 6.82M).

OP-ED: NIH BUDGET CUTS JEOPARDIZE NATIONAL NETWORK OF RESEARCH. Sandip Shah, founder and president of Market Access Solutions, and Joe Black, a director at Market Access Solutions, write in an op-ed in the [Washington Examiner](#) (8/10, 403K) to advocate for additional funding for the National Institutes of Health, saying the Trump Administration's proposed \$5.8 billion cut "would translate into 5,000 to 8,000 fewer grants per year for basic medical research" and result in "15 billion in lost economic activity and 90,000 jobs lost nationwide." They say that because "NIH isn't an isolated entity" but rather "a hub of public-private partnerships," the cuts "would dissolve" vital cooperative research "and America would lose an essential catalyst to biomedical innovation."

Health Reform:

INSURERS' INITIAL RATE REQUESTS FOR 2018 VARY WIDELY, ANALYSIS INDICATES.

[The Hill](#) (8/10, Rouben, 1.61M) reports that insurance companies' requests for premium hikes "in 2018 varied widely amid uncertainty surrounding how the Trump administration will implement ObamaCare," according to an analysis conducted by the Kaiser Family Foundation. The authors "analyzed initial premium requests from 21 major cities, and found the rate requests ran the gamut from a 5 percent decrease in Providence, R.I., to a 49 percent increase in Wilmington, Del." Data show there was hardly any change for some areas.

The [AP](#) (8/10, Alonso-Zaldivar) reports the Trump Administration's "actions are triggering double-digit premium increases on individual health insurance policies purchased by many consumers," the study concluded. The authors added that the Administration's actions have led to uncertainty "far outside the norm," which led insurers to seek higher premium increases than they would have otherwise.

Likewise, on its website, [CNBC](#) (8/10, Coombs, 3.58M) reports that it will most likely "be another year of double-digit premium increases for exchange health insurance plans, but this time, insurers are clearly" blaming uncertainty created by the Trump Administration for the hikes.

[Modern Healthcare](#) (8/10, Livingston, Subscription Publication, 239K) reports that insurers must submit their final rate requests by Wednesday. The article says the analysis also examined "premium changes over the last four years." Data reveal that Nashville, Tennessee, saw "the steepest monthly premium increase from 2014 to 2018 at 28%," while "premiums in Providence, R.I., have dipped by 4% over the four-year period."

REPUBLICANS CAST BLAME ON EACH OTHER FOLLOWING FAILURE OF SENATE ACA REPEAL BILL. The [Huffington Post](#) (8/9, Bobic, 6.63M) reports the failure of Senate Republicans' ACA repeal bill "is causing angst among GOP candidates up and down the ticket ahead of next year's congressional midterm election." The article says although "moderate Republicans like Sens. Lisa Murkowski (Alaska) and Susan Collins (Maine) are receiving warm adulation from constituents for opposing" the ACA repeal measure, "other GOP lawmakers are facing attacks from their right flank over their handling of the health care debate."

Dylan Scott writes in a [Vox](#) (8/9, 1.5M) piece that something that "got lost when Senate Republicans tried and failed to repeal Obamacare last month, in the most public and humiliating fashion, is what a rupture that failure would cause within the party." He adds that for seven years, Republicans have been promising to repeal the ACA, yet ultimately, "they've come up short, with no obvious alternatives."

SEN. JOHNSON SUGGESTS MCCAIN'S VOTE ON ACA REPEAL BILL MAY HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY BRAIN TUMOR. The [AP](#) (8/9, Cassata) reports that on Tuesday, Sen. Ron Johnson (R-WI) "suggested that fellow Republican Sen. John McCain's brain tumor and the after-midnight timing of the vote were factors in the Arizona lawmaker's decisive vote against the GOP health care bill." The article adds that during a radio interview, Johnson mentioned McCain's cancer diagnosis, and said, "That vote occurred at 1:30 in the morning. Some of that might have factored in."

[Politico](#) (8/9, Conway, 2.97M) reports that Johnson's "comments immediately raised eyebrows and prompted some rebukes on Twitter Wednesday." Asked to clarify his comments, Johnson said, "Again, I-I-I don't know exactly what – we really thought that – and again I don't want speak for any senator."

[TIME](#) (8/9, Reilly, 6.82M) says that in response to Johnson's comments, a spokesman for McCain said, "It is bizarre and deeply unfortunate that Senator Johnson would question the judgment of a colleague and friend. ... Senator McCain has been very open and clear about the reasons for his vote."

[The Hill](#) (8/9, Bowden, 1.61M) reports in its "Blog Briefing Room" that on Wednesday, Johnson "walked back comments he made...on a Chicago radio station in which he seemed to imply that Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.)'s brain cancer played a role in his decision last month to vote against the Senate's repeal of ObamaCare."

The [Washington Times](#) (8/9, Chasmar, 458K) reports that Johnson apologized Wednesday afternoon, saying, "I'm disappointed I didn't more eloquently express my sympathy for what Sen. McCain is going through. I have nothing but respect for him and the vote came at the end of a long day for everyone." [ABC World News Tonight](#) (8/9, story 8, 0:40, Muir, 14.63M) briefly reported on Johnson's comments.

Also covering the story are the [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#) (8/9, Gilbert, 746K), the [Huffington Post](#) (8/9, Bobic, 6.63M), the [Washington Times](#) (8/9, Chasmar, 458K), and the [Washington Examiner](#) (8/9, Quinn, 403K).

SEN. ROGER WICKER INSISTS SENATE'S EFFORTS TO REPEAL ACA WILL CONTINUE. The [Columbus \(MS\) Commercial Dispatch](#) (8/9) reports that on Tuesday, Sen. Roger Wicker (R-MS) "said Republican efforts to repeal and replace the Patient Protection and Affordable Care

Act...will continue despite failed efforts in both the House and Senate." He pointed out that the Senate was only one vote shy of passing its ACA repeal bill, and added, "My team had a setback a couple of weeks ago, but we're still determined to get the job done."

INDUSTRY GROUP USING AD CAMPAIGN TO LOBBY AGAINST ACA'S MEDICAL DEVICE TAX.

[The Hill](#) (8/9, Sullivan, 1.61M) reports the Advanced Medical Technology Association, the trade group for medical device companies, is unveiling "a new advertising campaign to push lawmakers to repeal ObamaCare's tax on medical devices." This "effort comes on the heels of Congress's failure to pass repeal of the healthcare law and as various industries are now looking for other avenues, besides full ObamaCare repeal, to abolish particular taxes in the law." The group says in the ads, "It's time to protect innovation, it's time to advance life-changing research, it's time to permanently repeal the jobs-killing device tax!"

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION TO DECIDE IF IT WILL CONTINUE FUNDING ACA NAVIGATORS.

[The Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Hackman, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports that the Trump Administration must decide soon if it will continue to provide funding to groups which help consumers enroll in Affordable Care Act plans. In 2016, CMS gave \$63 million in grants to about 100 community groups which perform this task. The article says the funding for these navigators is supposed to be renewed annually based on their performance, which means the Administration has the authority to terminate the funding in September.

SANDERS LOOKING FOR CITIZEN CO-SPONSORS FOR SINGLE-PAYER LEGISLATION.

[USA Today](#) (8/9, Gaudiano, 10.05M) reports Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT) is searching for "'citizen co-sponsors' for a 'Medicare-for-all' health care bill he plans to introduce in a few weeks." Although Sanders is determined to help fight efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act, he said on Wednesday that "the ultimate goal is a single-payer system, a federally administered program that would eliminate the role of private insurers in basic health care coverage."

NEW HAMPSHIRE GOVERNOR WANTS TRUMP TO ENCOURAGE CONGRESS TO SHORE UP ACA.

[AP](#) (8/9) reports New Hampshire Gov. Chris Sununu (R) wants President Trump "to take several steps to promote stability in the national health care marketplace until reform is achieved." Sununu wrote to Trump on Wednesday, saying that "for the sake of those who aren't able to have employer-based health insurance, and for those who pay the full premium without subsidies, the president should urge Congress to reform 'Obamacare' with a clear roadmap and path forward."

MCCAIN SAYS CONGRESS SHOULD TACKLE HEALTHCARE IN OPEN, BIPARTISAN MANNER.

[The Washington Examiner](#) (8/9, Leonard, 403K) reports Sen. John McCain said on Wednesday he believed that Congress could pass a healthcare bill working openly and in a bipartisan way. Though against socialized medicine, McCain said every citizen should have access to healthcare and "that he believed the U.S. needed to find a way to protect people with pre-existing illnesses" and that how to achieve those goals should be debated openly in Congress.

FEDERATED INSURANCE TO EXIT GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE BUSINESS.

[The Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) (8/9, Snowbeck, 1.22M) reports Federated Insurance said it won't return to the group health insurance market in 2018. Federated "hasn't been a huge player in Minnesota's health insurance market," but cited uncertainty over the federal Affordable Care Act as its reason for exiting. Uncertainty and the ACA's "made it virtually impossible to accurately predict and set future rates," Federated said Wednesday in a statement.

MACARTHUR FACES QUESTIONS ON HEALTHCARE DURING CALL-IN RADIO SHOW.

[The Burlington County \(NJ\) Times](#) (8/9, Levinsky, 56K) reports Rep. Tom MacArthur "got an earful" about his role in the House healthcare overhaul during his appearance on the call-in radio show Wednesday. MacArthur "said he still believes the Affordable Care Act needs to be replaced in order to address systemic failures that are causing health care premiums to skyrocket," but "he

disagreed with President Donald Trump's repeated calls to let the system fail" and his threat to limit cost-sharing reduction subsidies to insurers.

SIX PLEAD GUILTY TO TRESPASSING AFTER SIT-IN OVER CAPITO'S ACA REPEAL VOTE. The [Charleston \(WV\) Gazette-Mail](#) (8/9, Zuckerman, 17K) reports six people pleaded guilty to trespassing charges on Wednesday "after staging a June sit-in at Shelley Moore Capito's office to protest a repeal of the Affordable Care Act." The six made courtroom statements airing "their grievances against Capito for her vote in favor of the failed effort to repeal the law also known as Obamacare."

COMMENTARY CONSIDERS HEALTH REFORM. Several outlets offer opinions on health reform.

Charles Lane writes in the [Washington Post](#) (8/9, 12.92M) that while "McConnell shows no signs of agreeing to" eliminate the Senate's 60-vote filibuster after "his failure to repeal and replace Obamacare," there is "a reasonable case to be made that it would be in the GOP's interest to do what Trump says – if not immediately, then certainly if the Republicans manage to overcome Trump's declining approval numbers and do well in the 2018 midterm elections." If "2018 produces another GOP majority of fewer than 60 votes," and Republicans "retain the House," Trump "might see a once-in-a-generation opportunity to transform a whole host of policies – taxes, spending, regulation, immigration – in ways Democrats could not reverse until that far-off day when they manage to capture both houses of Congress and the executive branch."

Jennifer Rubin writes for the [Washington Post](#) (8/9, 12.92M) in its "Right Turn" blog that GOP lawmakers "were swarmed with major demonstrations" in their home states, mostly due to their agenda on healthcare. In photos "protesters can be seen holding signs that read in bold letters 'RESIGN,' 'One Term Only' and other scathing messages calling for the removal of elected officials currently holding office." Videos show locals "appearing dumbfounded and frustrated by Republicans' responses as to their stalled agenda."

Karl Rove writes in his [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) column that though Republicans have experienced many policy failures this year, the zealotry of the left wing of the Democratic Party is hurting its ability to take advantage. The leftward shift of the party, which Rove attributes to Sens. Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren and their supporters, helped push West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice to leave the party, and also imperils centrists like Sens. Heidi Heitkamp and Joe Manchin. Rove says activists are pressuring these senators to take stances that would make their re-elections more difficult next year. Rove notes that, among other issues, Sanders is demanding Democrats endorse a single-payer healthcare system or risk primary challenges.

Peter Morici at the University of Maryland writes in an op-ed for the [Washington Times](#) (8/9, 458K) that if the healthcare system collapses, Republicans will take the blame and Democrats will take control of the government by 2020, when they will "impose price controls through a British-style single-payer system." Morici writes that "essentially, they will impose Medicaid for all" under which "doctors, hospitals, and drug and health insurance companies will take a hair cut."

The [Dallas Morning News](#) (8/9, 894K) editorializes that the Texas state government should expand Medicaid "and make it their own." The editorial argues that expanding Medicaid would benefit Texas and that under the Trump Administration, the state has more flexibility to design the program the way it wants it to be.

Patricia Murphy writes in her column in [Roll Call](#) (8/9, 91K) that the Senate HELP Committee is deeply divided about healthcare reform. Murphy argues that "Senators may disagree on what to do about health care reform, but there is no disagreement about the death spiral that is likely to take place in the health insurance markets if Congress does not address the group of people who

buy their insurance through the exchanges and receive subsidies to help pay for it."

Brad Bannon, the CEO of Bannon Communications Research, writes in an opinion piece in [The Hill](#) (8/9, 1.61M) that "a hidden winner in the battle between ObamaCare and TrumpCare has been Medicare for All." Bannon argues that "since the bitter cage match between Affordable Care Act and the efforts to repeal and replace it erupted, support for universal healthcare has exploded."

Charles Wohlforth writes in a column for the [Alaska Dispatch News](#) (8/9, 168K) that "Alaska needs a solution to our health care cost crisis right now." The cost of health coverage "has simply made the state unlivable" for some people and has made Alaska businesses uncompetitive. Wohlforth writes that Alaska's unique problem isn't overuse of healthcare services, the size of the insurance market, or drug prices, but rather "our unregulated, isolated market has allowed profiteering by providers." Unlike other states, "Alaska lacks managed care systems that could limit this waste and gouging." Wohlforth argues for a single state healthcare plan.

Opioid News:

STATES SEEK TO LIMIT OPIOID PRESCRIPTION DURATION. The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Zezima, 12.92M) reports that "at least 17 states have enacted rules to curb the number of painkillers doctors can prescribe," and some have passed measures to limit the duration of the first opioid prescriptions to five or seven days. In Kentucky where 1,404 people died of drug overdoses in 2016, a new law limits opioid prescriptions for severe pain to three days. The CDC last year issued guidance for prescriptions, suggesting shorter durations limited to three to seven days. According to Patrice Harris, chair of the American Medical Association board of trustees, "there's been a general agreement" among healthcare providers "that we need to be more judicious in our prescribing."

OPIOID COMPANIES PAID PHYSICIANS OVER \$40 MILLION, STUDY SUGGESTS. The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Zezima, 12.92M) reports that "one in 12 doctors has received money from" pharmaceutical "companies marketing prescription opioid[s]," according to a new [study](#) published in the American Journal of Public Health. Researchers discovered that 68,177 physicians "received more than \$46 million from the opioid sellers between 2013 and 2015." The study, which used "publicly available data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services," found that physicians "were paid the most for the promotion of fentanyl."

[NBC News](#) (8/9, Fox, 4.92M), [Modern Healthcare](#) (8/9, Johnson, Subscription Publication, 239K), and [STAT](#) (8/9, Silverman, 80K) also covered the story.

FEDERAL DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY OVER OPIOID CRISIS MIGHT LACK SUBSTANTIVE VALUE, SOME EXPERTS SAY. [STAT](#) (8/9, Mershon, 80K) reports that though some states have used "emergency declarations" to help combat opioid crises through, for example, broader naloxone access and "new prescription monitoring guidelines," some experts say that "a federal declaration is an entirely different animal" and would be largely a "PR stunt." The article says recently-interviewed "advocates identified few new policy solutions that would only be possible if an official, nationwide emergency is declared," and similarly "major hospital groups" failed to identify "specific rules they might need relaxed" to assist their community efforts.

OPINION: TEN-STEP PLAN TO DEFEAT THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC BEGINS WITH A DECLARATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY. [Huffington Post](#) (8/9, Blumenthal, Kaplan, 6.63M) contributor Susan Blumenthal, M.D., and Emily Kaplan, in a 4,074-word op-ed, provide a ten-step "way forward" for ending the nation's opioid epidemic. The authors assert that the country's first step should be for the President to "declare that the opioid epidemic is a national emergency under either the Public Health Service Act or the Stafford Act." The plan also includes increased education and access to treatment programs, among other ideas.

OPINION: REDUCED FOCUS ON INCARCERATION, REMOVAL OF STIGMA WOULD AID OPIOID FIGHT. In an op-ed in [The Hill](#) (8/9, 1.61M), Diana H. Fishbein, PhD, director of the National Prevention Science Coalition to Improve Lives (NPSC), writes that “individuals who become addicted to opioids” frequently suffer from “early mental and behavioral health problems, exposure to adversity (e.g., poverty, child maltreatment, lack of social supports), unemployment, family distress, lack of job skills and opportunities, and other detrimental conditions,” according to addiction research by the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Fishbein suggests the federal government should reduce incarceration for drug addiction, increase prevention programs, invest in “medical and social research,” and “address the stigma of opioid addiction” to help solve the crisis.

ARIZONA HAS BENEFITED FROM EMERGENCY DECLARATION IN OPIOID CRISIS, STATE OFFICIAL SAYS. [NPR](#) (8/9, Hsu, 3.51M) in its “Shots” blog writes that “a handful of states have found” declarations of emergencies on the opioid epidemic “helpful.” For example, Dr. Cara Christ, director of the Arizona Department of Health Services, said the state’s June declaration of emergency has permitted Arizona to “train law enforcement on the use of naloxone...and develop opioid prescribing guidelines.” The article adds that Arizona has received “better real-time data about the epidemic,” including statistics on overdoses and naloxone administrations, since the declaration.

NASHVILLE MAYOR SAYS US CANNOT “ARREST OUR WAY OUT” OF OPIOID CRISIS. Gabe Gutierrez of [NBC Nightly News](#) (8/9, story 6, 2:00, Holt, 16.61M) interviewed Nashville, Tennessee Mayor Megan Barry, whose son recently died of a drug overdose. Gutierrez said, “On Tuesday, President Trump stopped short of declaring a national emergency. He pledged to ramp up law enforcement to combat the opioid crisis. Is that enough?” Barry replied, “No. We’re not going to arrest our way out of this problem. You need to have an access to beds and treatment.”

OP-ED SUGGESTS THREE-STEP SOLUTION TO OPIOID CRISIS. Constance Scharff, PhD, an author “with expertise in addiction and trauma recovery and mental health issues,” writes in an op-ed in the [Huffington Post](#) (8/9, 6.63M) to say that, contrary to President Trump’s advocacy for “what is already known to be a failed war on drugs policy” and continued interest in constructing a wall “to keep drugs or people out,” policy makers should instead focus on providing emergency responders with naloxone; children in the “broken” foster care system with access to “more, good quality homes”; and state-operated health exchanges with more substance abuse treatment options.

STATEN ISLAND REPORTS NEW HIGHS FOR RATE OF OPIOID OVERDOSES, DEATHS. The [New York Daily News](#) (8/9, Parascandola, 3.65M) reports Staten Island health officials have responded to “29 suspected drug overdoses — 13 of them fatal — in just the past three weeks, authorities said Wednesday.” The figures are up from four overdose deaths during each of the two prior three-week periods. Staten Island has the highest rate of overdose deaths in New York’s five boroughs with 31.8 per 100,000, showing an increase of 66 percent since 2015; and borough officials have “recorded 65 suspected overdose deaths and 124 Naloxone saves” in 2017. President Trump and HHS Secretary Tom Price at a “major briefing” on the opioid crisis said the Administration will not accede to recommendations to designate the crisis a national emergency.

FENTANYL AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ONLINE. [NBC News](#) (8/9, 4.92M) reports on its website that fentanyl is available for purchase online through “mail-order directly from China.” The substance, “50 times more powerful than heroin, can be found using a simple internet search” and is marketed as a “research chemical” that has a constantly-changing composition in order to avoid detection by authorities. According to the CDC, opioid deaths including those related to fentanyl rose by more than 72 percent between 2014 and 2015.

RURAL MARYLAND COUNTY INDICTS OPIOID DEALERS ON SECOND-DEGREE MURDER CHARGES. The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Hernández, 12.92M) reports the “small rural community”

of St. Mary's County, Maryland, has instituted policies to levy murder charges against people suspected of dealing opioids in part of "an aggressive campaign to combat the epidemic." The state, under Gov. Larry Hogan's direction, has undertaken steps to implement "some of the toughest charges against distributors who" officials "say are responsible for carnage." Hogan called for law enforcement to implement "tough" measures on a visit to the county after local officials announced eight second-degree murder indictments, each of which alleges suppliers sold "a deadly cocktail of fentanyl, carfentanil or heroin that resulted in the overdose deaths of eight in the county."

REP. KUSTER: TRUMP SHOULD APOLOGIZE FOR "DRUG-INFESTED DEN" REMARKS. US Rep. Ann McLane Kuster (D-NH) writes a letter to President Trump in [The Hill's](#) (8/9, 1.61M) "Congress Blog" in response to his reported remarks characterizing New Hampshire as a "drug-infested den." Kuster enumerates several policies the state has implemented to combat the opioid epidemic, and says Trump's campaign promises to advocates in the state that he would work to reverse the crisis must be "honored." Kuster suggests it is "time [the President]...learned from the many innovative solutions that we are pursuing in New Hampshire," saying he should "apologize."

NEARLY ONE-THIRD OF PHILADELPHIA POPULATION ON PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS IN PAST YEAR, SURVEY FINDS. The [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) (8/9, Sapatkin, 1.73M) reports a [survey](#) conducted by the Philadelphia Public Health Department released Wednesday found approximately one-third of the city's population, or nearly 469,000 adults, used prescription opioids in the last year, and more than 81 percent of them received the prescriptions from healthcare providers. The department also found "that 13 percent of all adults reported taking a prescription opioid in the last seven days, and more than a third of those were also on anti-anxiety medications like Xanax." The Inquirer explains, "The combination of opioids and those drugs, known as benzodiazepines, significantly increases the odds of an overdose."

Healthcare News:

WHISTLEBLOWER SAYS VA TO CLOSE INCOMPLETE HEALTHCARE APPLICATIONS DESPITE PROMISES INDICATING OTHERWISE. The [Washington Examiner](#) (8/9, Kasperowicz, 403K) reports "well-known whistleblower" Scott Davis, a public affairs officer for the Atlanta Veterans Affairs' Member Services, on Wednesday issued new warnings, saying the VA may close a large number of incomplete healthcare applications although, the Examiner says, "it's been clear for more than a year that the VA was failing to give veterans a chance to complete these applications." Davis wrote in a letter to VA Secretary David Shulkin that the agency will notify thousands of veterans their applications will be closed, citing emails from a federal contractor. According to Davis, the VA has promised it will not act until completing a full study on the agency's effectiveness at assisting veterans through the application process.

TEXAS HOUSE PASSES BILL REQUIRING WOMEN BUY SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR ABORTIONS. The [Austin \(TX\) American Statesman](#) (8/9, Lindell, Subscription Publication, 244K) reports the Texas House voted to pass a bill that requires women to buy supplemental insurance plans to have abortions covered, sending the bill to the Texas Senate which passed a similar bill two weeks ago. The bill is the latest abortion action taken by the House in its current 30-day special session, the other two being a bill that requires "more rigorous reporting of medical complications after an abortion," and a bill that increases "reporting on minors who receive an abortion."

The [Huffington Post](#) (8/9, Pearson, 6.63M) and [Reuters](#) (8/9, Herskovitz) offered coverage prior to the final vote in the House.

Health Information Technology:

APPLE MOST TRUSTED TO PROTECT HEALTH DATA, TWITTER POLL SUGGESTS. [CNBC](#)

(8/9, Farr, 3.58M) reports that according to an unscientific Twitter poll of more than 1,000 participants conducted by CNBC reporter Chrissy Farr, "only 37 percent" of respondents said they would refuse to share their health data with "a technology company like Apple, Amazon, or Google." Additionally, the article says, Apple was the "clear winner" of those who responded that they would share their health data. According to the article, the preference for Apple may be because the "company has made repeated assurances to users that it will not sell health data to advertisers" and "also went up against the FBI in refusing to help...unlock the iPhone of the San Bernardino shooter," which some may view as protective of individuals' privacy.

Nutrition & Obesity:

CULINARY EDUCATION A GROWING TREND IN SOME MEDICAL PRACTICES. The [New York Times](#) (8/9, De La Cruz, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that an increasing number of physicians and medical programs around the country are "teaching [patients] how to cook." Some "are building teaching kitchens or creating food pantries" within their practices, others "are prescribing culinary education programs," and several "medical schools have even introduced culinary curriculums," the article says.

ASSOCIATION BETWEEN OBESITY, DEPRESSION EXPLORED. [Politico](#) (8/9, Luthra, 2.97M) explores the association between obesity and depression, suggesting that it might be advantageous to treat both conditions together. According to the article, the American Medical Association "dubbed" obesity "a 'disease' four years ago, and the ACA limited cost sharing for some preventive obesity treatments." But, it could be difficult to find "a physician able to address both" obesity and depression at the same time. Anita Everett, president of the American Psychiatric Association and an assistant professor of psychiatry at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, said, "It's not a one-shot thing. Both of these are chronic conditions. They don't lend themselves to episodic treatment." In any case, "research suggests primary care physicians...aren't meeting clinical standards for treating depression," while "most psychiatrists aren't trained in weight management."

ORLANDO RESEARCH TRIAL ANALYZING IMPACT OF DIETARY CHANGES ON FSGS. [STAT](#) (8/9, Tedeschi, 80K) reports on a research trial currently underway near Disney World in Orlando to determine if "a change in diet" – the 20 study participants must for one month eat food that is "all organic, and free of gluten, dairy, salt, and processed sugar" – can trigger remission of the rare kidney disorder focal segmental glomerulosclerosis (FSGS). The article says "the participants will be encouraged to revert to their normal diets" following the study, "and they'll be tested again one month later to compare results."

Medicare:

HOSPITAL STAYS MAY COST POOR MEDICARE PATIENTS MORE, STUDY SUGGESTS. [Reuters](#) (8/9, Rapaport) reports that a new [study](#) published in the American Journal of Medicine suggests out-of-pocket spending for hospital care by people with Medicare "may be higher for those with lower incomes, because they're more likely than wealthier Medicare beneficiaries to be kept in the hospital without being officially admitted." The article explains that people who aren't sick enough for an inpatient admission "may be kept in the hospital for observation," but the "poorest people on Medicare had more hospitalizations for observation," which carries a one-time out-of-pocket fee and requires patients to pay 20 percent of the bills for services.

OVER HALF OF UTAH HOSPITALS REVIEWED BY CMS PENALIZED FOR HIGH READMISSION RATES. The [Salt Lake \(UT\) Tribune](#) (8/9, Stuckey, 427K) reports that 17 of the 32 Utah hospitals reviewed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) "were penalized" because of "high readmission rates." The article says St. Mark's Hospital in Salt Lake City will have its Medicare payments penalized "for the second year in a row," drawing a 2.81 percent penalty which is "the highest reduction in the state." The Tribune adds that nearly 20

percent of Medicare patients nationwide “are readmitted within 30 days, which costs about \$15 billion a year, according to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.”

HOSPITALS HOPEFUL FREEZE ON RULE CUTTING MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT WILL BECOME PERMANENT. [Modern Healthcare](#) (8/9, Dickson, Subscription Publication, 239K) reports long-term care hospitals are “hopeful” the Trump Administration will “permanently abolish” a proposed policy it has frozen while under review “that would dramatically reduce their Medicare reimbursement.” Under the so-called 25 percent rule, “if more than a quarter of a long-term care hospital’s patients come from a single acute-care hospital,” it would receive a 50 percent to 60 percent reduction to its Medicare reimbursement rate.

Medicaid &CHIP:

LATIMES: CALIFORNIA MUST CONTINUE TO RAISE PROVIDER REIMBURSEMENT RATES TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO CARE. The [Los Angeles Times](#) (8/9, 4.57M) editorializes that the claim in a recent lawsuit that Medi-Cal, the state’s Medicaid program, discriminates against Latinos “is dubious.” However, the Times says “for several years the Legislature prioritized expanding eligibility for Medi-Cal over improving access to care for those already in the program,” and as a result of poor reimbursement rates to healthcare providers, the state was left with too few providers “willing to treat” the influx of Medi-Cal patients. The article says “the state is starting to raise provider rates, thanks to” increased tobacco tax funds being provided to Medi-Cal, but adds that legislators “must continue” to pay attention to provider rates and access to care “or else the courts will do it for them.”

Health &Medical News:

STROKE RISK DECLINING FOR MEN BUT NOT FOR WOMEN. [ABC World News Tonight](#) (8/9, story 12, 0:20, Muir, 14.63M) reported a new study found that “fewer men are suffering strokes in the US while the number of women having strokes remains the same.” The [CBS Evening News](#) (8/9, story 9, 2:10, Mason, 11.17M) calls the findings “a puzzling and concerning trend.” Dr. Kathryn Rexrode from Brigham and Women’s Hospital suggested, in CBS’s words, “risk factors for stroke, such as obesity, high blood pressure, an irregular heartbeat and diabetes may for some reason affect women differently than men.”

The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Bakalar, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports the [study](#), published in *Neurology*, found that, adjusted for age and race, “stroke incidence in men had decreased to 192 per hundred thousand men in 2010, down from 263 in 1993–94. But for women the incidence was 198 per hundred thousand in 2010, down from 217 in 1993–94, a statistically insignificant change.” Dr. Tracy E. Madsen, an assistant professor of emergency medicine at Brown University, said, “Maybe we’re not controlling risk factors to the same extent in women. Or maybe there’s a biological difference in the way these risk factors cause strokes in men versus women.”

[HealthDay](#) (8/9, Reinberg, 11K) reports Madsen, the lead researcher, said, “We also found that the declining rates of stroke in men are primarily driven by a decrease in ischemic strokes, a specific type of stroke caused by a lack of blood flow to the brain as a result of blocked arteries or clots.” In contrast, rates for hemorrhagic stroke “remained stable for both women and men, the study found.”

On its website, [ABC News](#) (8/9, Nosova) reports, “Common stroke risk factors, such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol and diabetes, are all on the rise – a finding that likely reflects an aging population overall.”

OP-ED LAUDS WHISTLEBLOWERS. Nancy Gertner writes in a [Boston Globe](#) (8/10, 1.06M) op-ed about the history of whistleblowers in the US, which dates back as far as 1777, when

"Congress passed America's first whistleblower protection act" to aid sailors and marines who had unveiled the brutal treatment of British prisoners by the commander of the Continental Navy. She says that typically, whistleblowers "are the insiders – in government, in industry, in the scientific and political establishments – whose moral compass compels them to come forward when those around them are engaged in wrongful behavior." Gertner mentions several of them, including Jeffrey Wigand, a former vice president of research at the tobacco company Brown & Williamson, whose "truth-telling helped change the way cigarettes were marketed and regulated." She argues that while some may consider whistleblowers "snitches" or "un-American," the fact is that US law encourages whistleblowing, and Americans should thank these people who have helped make the country great.

OPINION: AOA IS LOBBYING FTC AND CONGRESS TO "CORNER THE CONTACT LENS MARKET." Andrew F. Quinlan, the co-founder and president of the Center for Freedom and Prosperity, writes in an opinion piece in [The Hill](#) (8/9, 1.61M) that the American Optometric Association is attempting "to corner the contact lens market" by lobbying the Federal Trade Commission "to abandon its efforts to protect competition" in the market. Quinlan argues that the AOA has convinced Reps. Leonard Lance (R-NJ) and Bobby Rush (D-IL) "to encourage the FTC to withdraw" a new regulation that requires "eye care professionals to obtain a signed form from each of their patients verifying that a copy of their prescription has been received."

LAWSUIT CLAIMS CVS COLLUDED WITH PBMS TO OVERCHARGE CUSTOMERS. [ABC World News Tonight](#) (8/9, story 13, 0:20, Muir, 14.63M) reported, "America's largest pharmacy chain" is "facing a new lawsuit tonight." The lawsuit, which claims CVS is "overcharging customers for generics," alleges that "the store charges a higher co-pay when a customer uses insurance" and charges less when customers pay with cash.

[Fierce Pharma](#) (8/9, Sagonowsky) reports a new class action lawsuit filed by Megan Schultz against CVS claims that the retail pharmacy has overcharged insured customers. The lawsuit claims the company "overcharged consumers who bought certain generic drugs with their insurance and then kicked some of the proceeds back to third-party pharmacy benefit managers [PBMs]."

LAWSUIT CLAIMS WALGREENS OVERCHARGED INSURED CUSTOMERS FOR PRESCRIPTION DRUGS. The [Chicago Tribune](#) (8/9, Schencker, 1.85M) reports David Grabstald, a California man, filed a proposed class-action lawsuit against Walgreens Boots Alliance claiming the company profited by charging insured customers "more for generic drugs than what they would have paid if they had not presented an insurance card." The lawsuit claims the company defrauded many customers who bought generic drugs through their insurance. Grabstald is being represented by Hagens Berman Sobol Shapiro, the same law firm that is representing a plaintiff in a similar lawsuit that was recently filed against CVS Caremark.

HOSPITALS' USE OF TWO CARDIAC DRUGS DECREASED AS PRICES INCREASED, STUDY FINDS. [Kaiser Health News](#) (8/9, Tribble) reports that after Valeant Pharmaceuticals raised the prices of two cardiac drugs, isoproterenol and nitroprusside, 47 hospitals decreased their use of the drugs, according to a [research letter](#) published in the New England Journal of Medicine. Researchers found that the use of isoproterenol decreased 35% between 2012 and 2015, while its price increased from \$26.20 to \$1,790.11, and the use of nitroprusside decreased 53% between 2012 and 2015, while its price for 50 milligrams increased from \$27.46 to \$880.88 in the same time period.

COLUMN: ONCE CTE CAN BE DIAGNOSED DURING LIFE, FOOTBALL WILL FACE ITS "MOMENT OF TRUTH." Joe Nocera writes in his column for [Bloomberg View](#) (8/9, 3.08M) that ongoing research into CTE will determine the future of US football. Nocera argues that once researchers devise a way to diagnose CTE while someone is alive, then football players will learn the true risk of them continuing to play football and "the game's moment of truth" will arrive. Nocera notes that the National Institutes of Health is funding research "searching for ways to

detect and diagnose CTE during life."

OPINION: CONGRESS SHOULD PASS LEGISLATION TO REDUCE FOOTBALL-RELATED HEAD INJURIES.

Dr. Lynn R. Webster, the vice president of scientific affairs for PRA Health Sciences, writes in an opinion piece in [The Hill](#) (8/9, 1.61M) that Congress needs to "recognize the seriousness" of football-related head injuries. Webster argues that Congress should pass legislation "that would mandate minimum standards or guidelines to reduce sports-related brain injury."

NASOPHARYNGEAL CARCINOMA MAY BE DETECTABLE THROUGH BLOOD TEST,

STUDY SUGGESTS. [Bloomberg News](#) (8/9, 3.08M) reports researchers detected nasopharyngeal carcinoma using a blood test, according to a [study](#) published in the New England Journal of Medicine. The study could help efforts to develop a cancer blood test, and one of the study's authors is a co-founder of the company Cirina, which is trying to do just that.

INTENSE, LONG WORKOUTS BETTER FOR APPETITE SUPPRESSION, STUDY

SUGGESTS. The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Reynolds, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that increased exercise intensity, particularly over lengthier periods of exertion, may be more useful "at blunting appetite" than low-intensity workouts, according to a recent small [study](#) published in the Journal of Endocrinology. The article says that "vigorous running" suppressed the production of acylated ghrelin, which is thought to trigger hunger, "more than gentler jogging and longer runs more than briefer ones." Additionally, the effect lasted "longest when the exercise had been most protracted."

OPINION: TRAINING HEALTHCARE WORKERS TO PERFORM EMERGENCY SURGERY CAN HELP COUNTRIES LACKING SPECIALISTS.

In a [STAT](#) (8/9, 80K) op-ed, Tigistu Adamu Ashengo, M.D., associate medical director at international nonprofit Jhpiego, writes that "more than 5 billion people...lack access to safe, affordable, and timely surgical and anesthesia care." Ashengo says that in response to specialist shortages in Ethiopia, he is "helping health care workers who aren't trained as surgeons perform emergency surgery," such as caesarean sections. Ashengo acknowledges some are skeptical of the approach, as "using nonspecialist surgical care providers to improve access to surgery upends the status quo," but says both "firsthand experience" and "emerging evidence" convince him of its effectiveness.

CALIFORNIA HEALTHCARE WORKERS FILE TO GET STRICTER DIALYSIS CLINIC

REGULATIONS ON NOVEMBER 2018 BALLOT. The [Los Angeles Times](#) (8/9, Mason, 4.57M) reports that "Service Employees International Union-United Healthcare Workers" on Wednesday "filed two initiatives with the state attorney general" in an effort "to impose stricter rules at dialysis centers for the staffing levels and how much they charge." The article says the initiatives "would appear on the November 2018 ballot" if they meet requirements. The initiatives are similar to bills currently pending in the legislature, the article adds.

LIQUID BIOPSY MAY DETECT FETAL DNA ABNORMALITIES, RESEARCHERS SAY.

[STAT](#) (8/9, Sheridan, 80K) reports that a [paper](#) published in ACS Nano "showing that for 15 women, a chip they first designed to pick out cancer cells from a blood sample – sometimes called a liquid biopsy – could also detect abnormalities in fetal DNA." The so-called NanoVelcro chip uses nanofibers "coated with antibodies" that "grab onto cells – specifically, trophoblasts – found in an expectant mother's blood sample as it's sent through the assay." The trophoblasts "come from the placenta as it develops, and each trophoblast carries a fetus's entire DNA sequence."

EXPERTS QUESTION WHETHER FIRST RESPONDERS ARE BEING HOSPITALIZED DUE TO FENTANYL EXPOSURE.

[STAT](#) (8/9, Ross, 80K) reports that a position [paper](#) published by the American College of Medical Toxicology which concludes, "based on what's been publicly released, none of the recent incidents involving first responders" being hospitalized due to fentanyl exposure "is consistent with opioid toxicity." STAT "spoke to several toxicologists and law enforcement officials to examine the underlying science of fentanyl exposure and the extent of

the risk it poses to first responders and the public." According to several toxicologists, "contact with intact skin is extremely unlikely to cause opioid toxicity, which can occur only if the substance enters the bloodstream."

TEXAS STATE LEGISLATOR SEEKING TO EXTEND TIME FOR CHILD-BIRTH RELATED DEATH TASK FORCE. [STAT](#) (8/9, Samuel, 80K) reports Texas attorney Shawn Thierry, who "almost died" when giving birth, "sponsored HB 11, colloquially called the 'Texas Moms Matter Act,' which gives a state task force more time to collect data and study the causes of childbirth-related deaths." Dr. Lisa Hollier, president-elect of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and chair of the Texas task force, said that some factors suspected to contribute to the increasing maternal deaths in the US. She said, "Women are having babies at later ages. Along with that, we're seeing an increase in high blood pressure, obesity, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease among women." Hollier also "said that the most important part of the Thierry bill is that it extends the length of time for the Texas task force to continue its review of maternal death data," adding, "That will give us a chance to see if our interventions work." ACOG recommends that "women with conditions such as preeclampsia, adult respiratory syndrome, and placenta previa should have specialists in high-risk birth available to at the time of delivery, and not just on call in case of complications." Hollier said, "I'm really hoping that Texas will do some of what states like California have done, to bring down the numbers of maternal deaths."

NEW PARENTS TURNING TO POSTPARTUM DOULAS. Journalist Rebecca Gale, in an op-ed in the [Washington Post](#) (8/9, 12.92M), writes about postpartum doulas, focusing on the experience of new mother Courtney Lee-Ashley and her husband, Matt. Such helpers can aid in establishing breast feeding and pumping routines, help spouses communicate, help the transition back to work, and aid with perinatal mood disorders. Additionally, postpartum doulas can recognize the need for a offer referrals for professional assistance. "The American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists recently changed their own postpartum recommendations to include such supports, since such visits can have a marked effect on postpartum mood disorders and on breast-feeding rates." Home visits after birth can have "significant" results; countries in which such visits are routine "have lower rates of postpartum mood disorders, higher breast-feeding rates, and better maternal and infant health."

FIGHT AGAINST POLICE BRUTALITY SAID TO BE PART OF REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE. Renee Bracey Sherman, a member of the black women's writing collective Echoing Ida, in an op-ed in the [New York Times](#) (8/9, Subscription Publication, 14.49M), writes, "State violence and control, whether through racist policing, the criminal justice system or the welfare system, are all issues at the core of reproductive justice," as all are issues "fundamentally about whether you, or the state, has control over your own body and destiny." Reproductive choice, "without the ability to protect a child from violence, rings hollow." The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists writes that "racial bias is an issue that affects our patients, either directly by subjecting them or their families to inequitable treatment, or indirectly by creating a stressful and unhealthy environment." Additionally, when a black child is killed by police officers "anti-abortion politicians and the countless people who have criticized bereaved black mothers" chastise and "scrutinize every parenting decision and ignore the structural issues that force those decisions."

STUDY DETAILS METHOD FOR BLOCKING SPREAD OF OVARIAN CANCER. The [Riverside \(CA\) Press Enterprise](#) (8/9, Muckenfuss, 289K) reports a study in [Oncogene](#) details "a mechanism for blocking the spread of ovarian cancer." Researchers "used a monoclonal antibody named GC-4 to block a protein responsible for allowing ovarian cancer cells to latch onto and penetrate other cells."

BLOOD TEST CAN SCREEN FOR NASOPHARYNGEAL CANCER. The [AP](#) (8/9, Marchione) reports a [study](#) published in the New England Journal of Medicine found that blood tests called liquid biopsies, which detect DNA that tumors shed into the blood, "boosted early detection" of nasopharyngeal cancer and "seemed to improve how many survived without worsening disease – 97 percent at three years versus 70 percent of the comparison group."

[STAT](#) (8/9, Begley, 80K) reports, "Diagnosing tumors via a simple blood test has become a holy grail." In the study, researchers didn't test for tumor DNA but instead for "DNA from Epstein-Barr, a virus that can cause nasopharyngeal cancer."

ACLU SUES DC METRO FOR REJECTING CONTROVERSIAL ADS, INCLUDING ADS FOR CARAFEM'S ABORTION PILL. The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Powers, 12.92M) reports the ACLU is suing the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority for rejecting proposed ads in its stations in a way that the organization says violates the First Amendment. The lawsuit focuses on four ads: "a PETA ad that encouraged riders to 'Go Vegan,' an advertisement for an FDA-approved abortion pill, a promo for a book by Yiannopoulos, and an ACLU campaign that highlighted a quote from the First Amendment." Carafem, the company behind the abortion pill for which ads were rejected, is supporting the lawsuit, with Chief Operations Officer Melissa Grant saying, "The abortion pill is, of course, both FDA-approved and accepted by the American Medical Association. We are a healthcare provider, not an advocacy group. Metro's ban of our ads claimed that they were 'issue-oriented' and 'provided a medical statement which can only be accepted from a government health association.'"

The [Washington Times](#) (8/9, Swoyer, 458K) also provides coverage.

TELEMEDICINE STARTUPS USING SMARTPHONES, APPS TO MONITOR CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH. The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Pogash, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports on tech startup Eko Devices' newest product: Duo, a digital stethoscope intended for home use that Eko's scientific advisor, Dr. Ami Bhatt, said could provide "a cardiology-level exam," the results of which patients could send to their physicians. A Berkeley classmate of Eko's founders started Knox Medical Diagnostics whose flagship device, the Aeriis, provides a similar service by allowing asthma patients to monitor their breathing and health at home. Both startups are part of the \$9.2 billion telemedicine industry, which "is growing at 8 percent annually, nearly three times as fast as other medical devices."

NEVADA COUNTY CLOSES LAKE WILDWOOD BEACHES DUE TO E. COLI CONTAMINATION. The [Sacramento \(CA\) Bee](#) (8/9, Knowles, 585K) reports health officials have closed Nevada County's Lake Wildwood and its public beaches after determining 14 people sickened with E. coli contracted the illness from the lake. It will remain closed until August 23 at the earliest.

OSPREY RAISES \$26 MILLION FOR FDA-CLEARED DYETECT DEVICE. The [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) (8/9, Carlson, 1.22M) reports Osprey Medical has raised nearly \$26 million in an effort to augment its American sales force and increase sales for its DyeTect product, a medical device "that reduce[s] the amount of chemical agents used during millions of live-motion X-rays to treat vascular problems." The FDA earlier this year approved the device, increasing Osprey's global market stance to a potential \$1.8 billion, the company said. Osprey said it is the only company with an FDA-approved product that claims to reduce the amount of dye used during a procedure without jeopardizing X-ray image quality, and markets its single-use disposable product at \$355 per patient.

PENNSYLVANIA REPORTS 44 PERCENT INCREASE OF BABIES BORN TO MOTHERS USING DRUGS DURING PREGNANCY. The [Allentown \(PA\) Morning Call](#) (8/2, Huang, 201K) reports a Pennsylvania Health Department study shows "more than 1,000 babies were born to mothers who used drugs during pregnancy in 2016 compared to 2013, a 44 percent increase." The Morning Call notes Lehigh Valley Health Network, Easton Hospital, and St. Luke's University Health Network in particular "saw the number of newborns exposed to illegal drugs more than double since 2013."

MORE MEN SAYING THEY USE CONDOMS, REPORT FINDS. [TIME](#) (8/9, Sifferlin, 6.82M) reports a survey from the National Center for Health Statistics polling more than 20,000 15 to 44

year-olds found “about 24% of women and 34% of men said they used a condom the last time they had sex,” indicating a 14 percent rise from 29.5 percent of men answering affirmatively in 2002.

HORMONE KLOTHO MAY IMPROVE COGNITIVE PERFORMANCE IN BRAINS DAMAGED BY DEMENTIA, MOUSE STUDY SUGGESTS. The [Los Angeles Times](#) (8/9, Healy, 4.57M) reports a [study](#) (8/8, 10K) published Tuesday in the journal Cell Reports showed the administration of hormone klotho, in the Times’ words, “improved the cognitive performance and even the mobility of mice whose brains were riddled with clumps and tangles of toxic proteins that are hallmarks of dementia and other debilitating brain diseases.” Researchers said the study showed “amazing and remarkable” results, adding that the impact of klotho administration was immediate among younger mice.

OIG AUDIT FINDS MAINE HHS NEGLECTED INVESTIGATIONS INTO DEATHS, CASES OF SUSPECTED ABUSE BY CARE PROVIDERS. The [Bangor \(ME\) Daily News](#) (8/10, Rhoda, Stone, 133K) reports an audit from the Office of the Inspector General for the US Department of Health and Human Services, released Thursday, found the Maine Department of Health and Human Services neglected to investigate the deaths of 133 people with developmental disabilities who died while in the care of community-based providers. The audit also found the department neglected to report suspicious deaths to law enforcement agencies, accepting only five percent of the total 15,897 cases providers submitted alleging abuse, neglect, exploitation, and medication errors.

TEXAS MAY SOON PERMIT DISTRIBUTION OF CANNABIS OIL. The [Texas Tribune](#) (8/10, Samuels, 15K) reports Texas Gov. Greg Abbott signed the state’s first bill permitting the growth and sale of marijuana in Texas, although residents are still unable to legally buy cannabis oil. Despite this, three eligible dispensaries “believe they are weeks away from receiving the official go-ahead to become the state’s first sellers,” pending the Texas Department of Public Safety’s decision, released September 1. The companies are the only eligible dispensaries of 43 applicants to receive preliminary licenses.

NEGLECT CASE OF DISABLED RESIDENT WITH MAGGOTS SPOTLIGHTS NEW YORK’S LACK OF TRANSPARENCY AMONG CARE PROVIDERS. The [AP](#) (8/10, Klepper) reports on the case of Steven Wenger, a resident of a New York state group home for the severely disabled who was neglected by caretakers to the point that maggots infested the area around his throat ventilator. The AP says his case, the “result of several days of neglect by caretakers who were supposed to keep the tracheostomy clean,” spotlights the lack of transparency among state-regulated facilities in disclosing data. According to the AP, “Maggots in a tracheostomy are almost unheard of in the developed world, with only a few cases in the medical literature.”

MANY TRANSGENDER PEOPLE INCREASINGLY REPORT FEELING “UNSAFE.” The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Ellin, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports on the cases of transgender people who “say they feel increasingly unsafe, and that ‘passing’ for one gender or another ‘is necessary for survival.’” According to a 2015 National Center for Transgender Equality report, “one in 10 reported being physically or sexually assaulted, and 46 percent had been verbally harassed in the past year.” Advocates also point to “at least 22 murders of transgender people in the United States” in 2016, “the highest number ever recorded.” One research expert said the US “lack[s] systematic data collection” needed to track instances of abuse and discrimination.

NEW YORK BEGINS INITIATIVE TO LIMIT HOSPITALIZATIONS DUE TO ASTHMA. The [New York Daily News](#) (8/9, Blau, 3.65M) reports New York City has undertaken a new initiative to reduce the number of hospitalizations due to asthma. Community health workers will visit the homes of residents with asthma to identify possible triggers such as old pillow cases or cleaning supplies containing irritants. NYC Health + Hospitals/Woodhull Chief of Pediatrics Dr. Luis Rodriguez identified asthma as being “the third-leading cause of hospitalization among children under the age of 15 in the United States.”

GROUP PETITIONS CLEVELAND CLINIC TO MOVE ANNUAL GALA FROM MAR-A-LAGO.

The [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#) (8/9, Koff, 898K) reports the Cleveland Clinic has faced pressure to select a different venue for their 2018 fundraising gala, which is currently set to be held at President Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate. A group of medical students, physicians, advocates, and liberal organizations have formed a petition against the clinic's gala location, saying it "is unacceptable because it symbolically and financially supports a politician actively working to decrease access to health care and cut billions of dollars in research funding from the National Institutes of Health budget."

NEW RESOURCE HELPS PARENTS TALK TO THEIR KIDS ABOUT TRAGEDIES. [Reuters](#)

(8/9, Crist) reports, "Parents wondering how to talk to their children about tragedies such as natural disasters or terrorist attacks have a new [resource](#) to help them," published online in JAMA Pediatrics. According to Reuters, "the content of the page...is based on recommendations given by HealthyChildren.org, a website run by the American Academy of Pediatrics."

NEW APPROACH INTEGRATES MENTAL HEALTH INTO PRIMARY CARE. [Politico](#) (8/9,

Silberner, 2.97M) reports on "a new approach to health care" that integrates "mental health into the rest of...primary care." Currently, "the American Medical Association, the American College of Physicians, the American Psychiatric Association, ...and other groups have policies promoting integrated care and offer information to their members on how to adopt it." Beginning "last January, Medicare has been paying physicians for behavioral health care management and consultation." In fact, new billing codes exist to "allow physicians to charge for helping their patients get behavioral health treatment, managing their patients' care, and working with psychiatrists."

FORM OF IMMUNOTHERAPY PROMISING IN TREATING T1D IN SMALL CLINICAL STUDY.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (8/9, Healy, 4.57M) reports, "A form of immunotherapy gaining ground as a way to treat childhood food allergies has shown promise in treating...type 1 diabetes [T1D]." In a small clinical study, researchers "gave patients recently diagnosed with the metabolic disorder a truncated version of the chemical that gives rise to insulin." The [findings](#), published online in Science Translational Medicine, offer "some preliminary reassurance that immunotherapy could be used safely in this growing population." [HealthDay](#) (8/9, Gordon, 11K) also covers the story.

Global Health:

UN SECURITY COUNCIL REQUESTS WARRING PARTIES IN FOUR COUNTRIES ALLOW FOR FAMINE RELIEF TO REACH 20 MILLION PEOPLE. [Reuters](#) (8/9, Alkousaa) reports the

UN Security Council sent a statement to warring factions in Yemen, Somalia, South Sudan, and Nigeria in which they requested the parties "allow humanitarian aid access and urged countries to donate more money to avert famines threatening 20 million people." Earlier this year, the UN requested "\$4.9 billion to combat what it calls the largest humanitarian crisis since the world body was formed," though the UN has only received roughly 51 percent of this amount. Carl Skau, the deputy UN ambassador for Sweden, which drafted the original statement, said the four crises are connected due to their origins in conflict and the restrictions currently hampering humanitarian aid.

YEMENI CHOLERA CRISIS ESCALATING. The [AP](#) (8/10, Al-Haj, Michael) reports the war that has raged in Yemen for two years "has turned the country into an incubator for lethal cholera." International humanitarian groups and national health organizations are working to intervene, but poor sanitation and water systems, coupled with corruption and a lack of oversight, "put Yemenis at risk of drinking feces-contaminated water." According to the AP, "Yemen has seen the largest outbreak of the disease ever recorded in any country in a single year," with about one in every 120 citizens suspected of being ill with cholera, the International Committee of the Red Cross estimates. The World Health Organization estimates as many as 5,000 people become ill each day, although the AP notes the majority of people exposed to the bacteria do not become ill.

MEXICAN ANTITRUST AGENCY SAYS PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES ARE NOT FACING SAME COMPETITION FROM GENERICS AS THEY DO IN OTHER COUNTRIES. [Reuters](#) (8/9, Eschenbacher) reports Mexico's antitrust agency Cofece issued a report that said some pharmaceutical companies are not facing the same competition from generics in Mexico that they do in other countries. The report listed several companies, including Abbott Laboratories, AstraZeneca Plc, GlaxoSmithKline, Eli Lilly and Co., Janssen-Cilag SA, Merck &Co. Inc., Novartis AG, Pfizer Roche Holdings AG, and Sanofi-Aventis.

BELGIAN AGRICULTURAL MINISTER CLAIMS DUTCH OFFICIALS FOUND FIPRONIL-TAINTED EGGS IN NOVEMBER. The [AP](#) (8/9, Cook) reports Belgian Agriculture Minister Denis Ducarme announced on Wednesday that Dutch officials knew as early as November that some eggs in its country were contaminated with the insecticide Fipronil, but they failed to notify European trade partners such as Britain, France, Sweden, and Switzerland of the potential contamination until last month. Ducarme asked his Dutch counterpart for an explanation for this delay in notification. European Union food safety officials are coordinating with Belgian and Dutch officials to investigate the contaminations, while Ducarme "said that food safety controls have been boosted after contaminated eggs were discovered in Belgium last month."

[Reuters](#) (8/9) also provides coverage.

National News:

WHITE HOUSE SOURCES: TRUMP'S "FIRE AND FURY" THREAT SURPRISED HIS OWN ADVISERS. The tensions over the North Korean nuclear threat once again dominated the news cycle. All three networks led with the story, dedicating just over 23 minutes of combined coverage – up from 15 minutes on Tuesday night. One major topic of discussion was reporting, based on unnamed sources, on the President's stern warning to North Korea the previous day.

Cecilia Vega reported on [ABC World News Tonight](#) (8/9, lead story, 3:55, Muir, 14.63M) that it "caught some in the President's own inner circle by surprise. The President, in that statement, using language not vetted or pre-approved by his national security team." According to Vega, "Sources close to the President say behind closed doors with top aides, including new Chief of Staff Gen. John Kelly, President Trump had discussed taking a tougher tone on Pyongyang. But even members of his own national security team had no idea the President would go this far." Similarly, Anthony Mason said in the lead story on the [CBS Evening News](#) (8/9, lead story, 2:30, 11.17M) that Trump's national security advisers had "agreed on a tough statement," but "they didn't expect" him to warn of "fire and fury like the world has never seen."

Similarly, the [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Rucker, Deyoung, 12.92M) reports Trump discussed with his advisers "a strategy to escalate his rhetoric and deliver a more aggressive and overt challenge to North Korea's leader, Kim Jong Un, said two senior White House officials." The message Trump delivered Tuesday afternoon "was unexpected, but it wasn't surprising," one of the officials said.

The [New York Times](#) (8/9, A1, Baker, Thrush, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that when Trump delivered his "fire and fury" threat to North Korea on Tuesday with "eyes flitting on what appeared to be a single page of talking points set before him on the conference table," the piece of paper "was a fact sheet on the opioid crisis he had come to talk about." Trump's "ominous warning to Pyongyang was entirely improvised," and he did not run the language by his advisers during talks beforehand.

The [Washington Times](#) (8/9, Boyer, 458K), however, reports that the White House said Wednesday that the President's advisers were "well aware" that he planned to deliver a strong message, but Trump "chose the specific language." Press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Chief of Staff John Kelly and others on the President's national-security team "were well

aware of the tone of the statement of the president prior to delivery," but "the words were his own."

[Bloomberg News](#) (8/9, Faries, Syeed, 3.08M) reports White House senior adviser Stephen Miller "suggested one intended audience for Trump's blunt rhetoric may have been China." Said Miller, "One of the most important things that you've seen is the president being so clear so publicly about China's responsibilities in this regard. But the frankness of the president's comments, the straightforwardness of his comments broadcast publicly about his expectations in that area, again, represent a new approach to how we're handling the issue."

White House Deputy Assistant Sebastian Gorka said on [Fox News' Fox & Friends](#) (8/9, 831K) that the President "is saying don't test America and don't test Donald J. Trump. We are just not a superpower. We were a hyper power. Nobody in the world, especially not North Korea, comes close to challenging our military capabilities, whether they're conventional, whether they're nuclear or whether they are special forces. So the message is very clear: don't test this White House, Pyongyang."

Gorka said on [Fox News' Hannity](#) (8/9, 535K), "North Korea needs to understand the blackmail stops, and if you get into an arms race, as Secretary Mattis said, with United States of America, you will lose, whoever you are."

Trump aides, [Politico](#) (8/9, Nelson, 2.97M) reports, are "warning against reading too much into the combative talk." One "White House official" said, "I think he just wanted to show North Korea he was tired of it." Trump, the official said, "was presented at his golf course on Tuesday with a new batch of information on North Korea a few hours before his controversial comments."

Lawmakers, however, have been "worried about...Trump going off script for months," [McClatchy](#) (8/9, Kumar, Clark, 95K) reports, and now they "are worried that his blunt and provocative warning to North Korea could lead to war." Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA) said, "His bombastic rhetoric really inflamed a very...dangerous situation." McClatchy says "it's not just Democrats who are alarmed," and "even some fellow Republicans criticized the president's language." Sen. John McCain told Arizona radio station KTAR, "It's kind of the classic Trump in that he overstates things."

Sen. Ben Cardin, ranking Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said on [MSNBC's Morning Joe](#) (8/9, 270K), "I think the international community is looking to the United States for leadership to avoid a military confrontation with North Korea that could well involve nuclear weapons, and what the President said was just not helpful, but also raises the question to the international community whether the United States has a game plan for North Korea in order to change the equations."

The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Myers, Choe, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports the President's comments Tuesday also "sent a shudder through Asia on Wednesday, raising alarm among allies." The Chinese Foreign Ministry "restated its position that the North Korean nuclear issue should be resolved by political means" and that "all relevant parties" should avoid "remarks and acts that may escalate the conflict." South Korea, meanwhile, sought "to ease concern about the situation, saying that the North's recent posturing, including its threat to attack Guam, appeared to be aimed at tightening solidarity among its own population and causing its neighbors anxiety."

The [CBS Evening News](#) (8/9, story 3, 1:50, Mason, 11.17M), however, reported that amid the heightened rhetoric, South Korean President Moon Jae-In says he will now allow the US to fully deploy the THAAD defense system in his country. Japanese lawmakers, meanwhile are "pushing for new weapons that could allow it to launch a preemptive strike on North Korea."

Trump's comments Tuesday, the [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Fisher, Johnson, 12.92M) reports,

have also further raised concerns among “those who believe the president is a loose cannon, impulsively blurting whatever flits through his mind.” The Post says the incident recalls for some Hillary Clinton’s campaign ad featuring “a longtime nuclear missile launch officer” who warned against voting for Trump: “I prayed that call would never come. Self-control may be all that keeps these missiles from firing.”

While a [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) editorial hits back at criticisms of the President’s remarks, arguing that diplomacy works best when there is a credible threat to back it up, most commentary is critical of the President’s tone Tuesday. A [USA Today](#) (8/9, 10.05M) editorial, for example, argues that it is “time for a deep breath. Fiery rhetoric aside, it bears remembering that the United States and North Korea do not seek dominion over the other,” and “America fares best when it acts with steely resolve, not out of fear.” In Japan, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Sonne, Radnofsky, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s government welcomed Trump’s “fire and fury” language.

On its editorial page, the [New York Times](#) (8/9, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) writes that “on some emotional level, one might be able to see why Donald Trump threatened to unleash ‘fire and fury’ against North Korea,” but he “is president of the United States, and if prudent, disciplined leadership was ever required, it is now.” The Times argues that “rhetorically stomping his feet, as he did on Tuesday, is not just irresponsible; it is dangerous.” Instead, “tougher sanctions, coupled with [Secretary of State] Tillerson’s continued efforts at a diplomatic solution, are the best path to a peaceful end to this conflict. That is what Mr. Trump should also be focused on. Engaging in a war of words with North Korea only makes it harder for both sides to de-escalate.”

[Washington Post](#) (8/9, 12.92M) columnist E.J. Dionne Jr. writes that while Trump “may be given to hyperbolic (and often fact-free) attacks on those he perceives as enemies,” it’s “hard to be hyperbolic where Kim is concerned. He’s about as scary and cruel as they come. And this is where Trump’s temperamental unfitness for the office he occupies is disturbing for reasons that go far beyond party or ideology.” Politico’s Edward-Isaac Dove [tweeted](#), “The president’s aides would like you to know he wasn’t prepared and didn’t mean it when he threatened nuclear war.”

Former Ambassador Bill Richardson said on the [CBS Evening News](#) (8/9, story 4, 2:20, Mason, 11.17M), “The best option is diplomacy. The best option is continued sanctions...continue to pressure China, continue the military exercises. But find a way to talk to the North Koreans.” He added that “talk about preemptive military strikes and the President’s very incendiary statement, which was not helpful, is not the way to go.”

Rep. Andre Carson (D-IN) said on [CNN’s Situation Room](#) (8/9, 554K) said he doesn’t think a military response should be taken off the table, but “our diplomatic response sends an example,” and “I don’t think that President Trump should try to make outlandish statements to one-up Kim Jong-un.”

Many Democratic members of the House tweeted about the President’s words. Rep. Judy Chu (D-CA) [tweeted](#), “Trump has said ‘all options are on the table’ w/r/t #NorthKorea but all we’ve seen is reckless bluster. Diplomacy must be the top priority.” Rep. Diana DeGette (D-CO) [tweeted](#), “@POTUS’ reckless rhetoric on #NorthKorea could further escalate a very precarious situation. Thoughtful strategy & diplomacy is critical.” Rep. Dan Kildee (D-MI) [tweeted](#), “When it comes to North Korea, we need a smart, strong and unified strategy – not bombastic rhetoric.”

Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI) [tweeted](#), “Please, @realDonaldTrump, enough w/ the saber-rattling. You can’t fight lunacy w/ lunacy. Diplomacy is the only way forward w/ #NorthKorea.” Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA) [tweeted](#), “Erratic and fiery belligerence of @POTUS statements do little to defuse North Korea situation and threaten to make a bad situation worse.” Rep. Eric Swalwell (D-CA) [tweeted](#), “Constituent texts pouring in asking ‘should we worry about North Korea?’ I’ve never seen anything like chaos @realDonaldTrump has created.”

Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY) [tweeted](#), "Diplomacy = best & only peaceful way to push back on #NorthKorea. We must work w/ S.Korea, Japan & China to reverse their nuclear ambitions." Rep. Tim Walz (D-MN) [tweeted](#), "@POTUS rhetoric on N. Korea is reckless and does nothing to keep us safe. Clear he fails to understand the role of commander-in-chief."

Trump Comments Spark Debate Over War Resolution. [The Hill](#) (8/9, Wong, 1.61M) reports President Trump's warning to North Korea has "reignited a debate about whether the commander in chief needs congressional approval before launching a preemptive military strike." So far, however, "congressional leaders from both parties have been silent on the issue." The Hill suggests lawmakers are "reluctant to tie Trump's hands" and "recognize how unpopular and divisive a vote on a war resolution would be for lawmakers facing reelection next year."

Rep. Ted Lieu (D-CA) [tweeted](#), "No debate here. It's unconstitutional for @realDonaldTrump to go to war with #NorthKorea without Congressional authorization."

Former GOP Senator Says Trump Should Be Removed From Office Via 25th Amendment. [WMUR-TV](#) Manchester, NH (8/9, 400K) reports on its website that former New Hampshire Sen. Gordon Humphrey, a Republican, has sent letters to the state's senators and two House members, all Democrats, urging them to support removing Trump from office, "citing the president's Tuesday promise to unleash 'fire and fury' on North Korea if that nation continues its nuclear aggression. Humphrey says Trump is 'sick of mind' and 'dangerous'" and should be removed via the 25th Amendment. The [Boston Globe](#) (8/9, Pindell, 1.06M) reports that Humphrey "represented New Hampshire in the US Senate from 1978 to 1990, during which time he was viewed as one of the body's most conservative members."

WPost Analysis: Echoes Of Cuban Missile Crisis In Trump's North Korea Warnings. The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Miller, 12.92M) reports President Trump's comments about North Korea have "echoed President Truman's warning to Japan two days after the bombing of Hiroshima" that if the country didn't surrender, it faced "a rain of ruin from the air, the like of which has never been seen on this Earth." But his "blunt words" also "reflect the influence not only of the military academy" Trump attended as a teen, "but also the Cuban missile crisis."

Author Michael Dobbs, writing in the [Washington Post](#) (8/9, 12.92M), also ties Trump's comments to the Cuban missile crisis. Dobbs writes, "Given the explosive rhetoric of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, it is understandable that President Trump should be tempted to respond in kind. ... Playing chicken is, however, a dangerous indulgence for the leader of a nuclear superpower."

Media Analyses: Obama, Not Trump, Deserves Credit For Upgrading US Nuclear Arsenal. The President's tweets Wednesday morning also got extensive media attention, with analysts casting doubt on the accuracy of his claims about the nation's nuclear arsenal.

Kristen Welker, for example, reported on [NBC Nightly News](#) (8/9, story 3, 2:25, Holt, 16.61M) that "privately, Administration officials acknowledge they've spent the day trying to turn down the heat, but the President may have added to the mixed messaging, [tweeting](#), 'My first order as President was to renovate and modernize our nuclear arsenal. It is now far stronger and more powerful than ever before.'" However, Welker reported that though it's true Trump ordered a review of the nuclear arsenal in January, former President Obama "had already launched an effort to upgrade the stock pile, and it's a project that will take at least 30 years to complete, making it impossible for there to have been any significant changes this year."

Major Garrett, in the lead story on the [CBS Evening News](#) (8/9, lead story, 2:30, 11.17M), likewise noted that "in fact, it was President Obama who directed billions over many years to improve aging nuclear weapons and delivery and targeting systems." The President did, however, "order an overall review of US nuclear strategy earlier this year."

Under the headline "Trump Makes False Claims About US Nuclear Arsenal," the [Los Angeles Times](#) (8/9, Hennigan, 4.57M) says "parts of the president's claims are false." Like other outlets, the Times says Trump "did not order the modernization of the nuclear arsenal, President Obama did that in 2014." And while Trump "did launch a top-to-bottom Nuclear Posture Review...just like each of his recent predecessors did when they took office," it "wasn't Trump's first order." Instead, it was issued "a week after Trump took office, and was preceded by more than a dozen orders on other topics." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Sonne, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) also says the review ordered by Trump in January is a customary action taken by administrations, while a revamp of the nuclear arsenal would require congressional legislation.

Trump, the [New York Times](#) (8/9, Qiu, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports, "claimed undue credit for revamping the nation's nuclear arsenal, wrongly suggested tremendous progress had been made since he took office, and misrepresented the sequence and scope of his executive actions." An [AP](#) (8/9, Baldor) "Fact Check" makes similar claims, adding that Trump's statement about overall nuclear strength is also "debatable," the [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Rucker, Wagner, 12.92M) calls it "an inflated claim," and [Bloomberg News](#) (8/9, Syeed, 3.08M) reports that "for now, at least, the arsenal is shrinking" under its obligations to the New START treaty.

Glenn Kessler writes in his [Washington Post](#) (8/9, 12.92M) "Fact Checker" column that "we wavered between Three and Four Pinocchios, but ultimately tipped to Four, given how Trump tooted his horn inappropriately."

Gorka: Clinton, Obama "Appeasement" Led To Current Predicament. During an appearance Wednesday on CBN, the [Daily Caller](#) (8/9, 680K) reports, Gorka blamed former Presidents Clinton and Obama for the rise of North Korea, and said the US is now "paying the price of that appeasement of Pyongyang." After CBN anchor David Brody played a 1999 clip of Trump "sounding the alarm on North Korea," Gorka "praised Trump for his foresight," saying he "saw the price of appeasement which happened afterwards during the Clinton administration and then during the Obama administration, and today we are paying the price of that appeasement of Pyongyang."

Global Stocks End Lower Amid North Korea Fears. [Reuters](#) (8/8, Campos) reports Trump's "warning to North Korea and Pyongyang's threat of possible armed retaliation drove investors away from stocks and other risky assets" on Wednesday and into "safe-havens like gold and Treasuries." Trump's remarks "weighed on Wall Street" as the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 36.64 points, or 0.17 percent, to 22,048.7, the S&P 500 lost 0.9 points, or 0.04 percent, to 2,474.02 and the Nasdaq Composite dropped 18.13 points, or 0.28 percent, to 6,352.33. The [Washington Times](#) (8/9, Miller, 458K) reports Trump's threatening rhetoric on North Korea "is almost entirely responsible for the pullback," said Randy Frederick, vice president of trading and derivatives for Charles Schwab.

WPost Recalls Nixon-Era Officer Dismissed For Questioning Nuclear Launch Protocol. The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Rosenwald, 12.92M) recalls the story of Air Force Maj. Harold Hering, who in 1973 was training to be "a missileer – the guy who turns the keys to commence nuclear Armageddon." In an interview earlier this year, Hering said, "I assumed there had to be some sort of checks and balances so that one man couldn't just on a whim order the launch of nuclear weapons." According to the Post, Hering was forced to retire because "he wouldn't stop questioning the launch protocol." A [New York Times](#) (8/9, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) video says that with his threat, Trump could have been employing a strategy used by former President Richard Nixon, the "madman theory."

MATTIS WARNS OF NORTH KOREA'S "DESTRUCTION," TILLERSON TELLS AMERICANS TO "SLEEP WELL AT NIGHT." Media reports are contrasting separate remarks made Wednesday by Secretary of State Tillerson and Defense Secretary Mattis regarding North Korea. While Tillerson was cast as urging calm, a warning to the North from Defense Secretary Mattis

was described as echoing the President's rhetoric. The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Morello, 12.92M), at any rate, says Tillerson "defended" Trump's forceful "warning to North Korea" even as he "attempted to dismiss concerns that Guam is in any imminent danger." Speaking to reporters aboard a flight home from Asia, Tillerson said, "What the president is doing is sending a strong message to North Korea in language that Kim Jong Un would understand, because he doesn't seem to understand diplomatic language."

Meanwhile, another [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Lamothe, 12.92M) story indicates that in remarks that were "notably more measured" than the President's, Mattis warned North Korea Wednesday that its actions "will continue to be grossly over-matched by ours," and that Pyongyang would lose any conflict that it starts with the US. In a statement, Mattis said, "While our State Department is making every effort to resolve this global threat through diplomatic means, it must be noted that the combined allied militaries now possess the most precise, rehearsed and robust defensive and offensive capabilities on Earth." He added that North Korea "should cease any consideration of actions that would lead to the end of its regime and the destruction of its people."

In its lead story, [NBC Nightly News](#) (8/9, lead story, 3:25, Holt, 16.61M) said Mattis delivered "his own more artfully worded, but no less threatening message, warning North Korea against actions that could lead to 'the destruction of its people.'" Mattis, the [Washington Times](#) (8/9, Muñoz, 458K) says, was "echoing the strong language coming from the Trump White House," and [The Hill](#) (8/9, Mitchell, 1.61M) says he was "just as tough in tone with North Korea, but it indicated mere threats from Pyongyang, which are routinely made by that country's government, would not lead to military action." [Townhall](#) (8/9, Pavlich, 450K) also reports on Mattis' statement.

[USA Today](#) (8/9, Brook, 10.05M) reports Mattis also said Trump "was informed of the growing threat from North Korea last December and has since stressed the need to enhance US readiness." But USA Today expresses doubts that the US nuclear arsenal is, as Trump boasted, "now far stronger and more powerful than ever before." While Trump ordered a review of the nation's nuclear weapons programs, any changes take time "usually measured in years and decades, not weeks and months."

The [AP](#) (8/9, Lederman), meanwhile, reports that as President Trump in a series of tweets on Wednesday declared the US nuclear arsenal "far stronger and more powerful than ever before," Secretary of State Tillerson was working to calm the North Korea crisis and insisting there wasn't "any imminent threat." Only hours before Trump's tweets, Tillerson urged calm and said Americans should have "no concerns" despite the recent rhetoric. Aboard his plane as he flew home from Asia, Tillerson said, "Americans should sleep well at night. Nothing that I have seen and nothing that I know of would indicate that the situation has dramatically changed in the last 24 hours." The AP says the "mixed messages from Tillerson and Trump put the onus on the North Koreans to decide how to interpret the latest missives from the US."

[Bloomberg News](#) (8/9, Kate, Foroohar, 3.08M) similarly reports Tillerson "tried to ease concerns that the US was heading toward a military confrontation with North Korea," and the [Washington Times](#) (8/9, Boyer, Taylor, 458K) quotes him as saying, "I do not believe that there is any imminent threat, in my own view."

Anthony Mason similarly said in the lead story on the [CBS Evening News](#) (8/9, lead story, 2:30, 11.17M) that Tillerson "tried to reassure Americans and the world that we are not on the brink of nuclear war," and Bill Neely said on [NBC Nightly News](#) (8/9, lead story, 3:25, Holt, 16.61M) that Tillerson is "turning down the temperature."

Cecilia Vega reported on [ABC World News Tonight](#) (8/9, lead story, 3:55, Muir, 14.63M) that Tillerson sent "a message of his own...offering very different words" and "striking a much softer tone" than the President. The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Baker, Harris, Sullivan, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) likewise says the Secretary sent "a more nuanced message" than Trump, and [USA Today](#) (8/9, Wolf, 10.05M) writes that while Tillerson "wants Americans to sleep well at

night," his "task as the nation's chief diplomat facing his first major international crisis is tougher than promoting sweet dreams. He must try to tamp down" Trump's threat "with an oilman's background, a depleted senior staff, a threatened budget crunch and a power struggle with the White House."

Dana Milbank writes in his [Washington Post](#) (8/9, 12.92M) column that on Tuesday, Trump "delivered remarks about North Korea – words we now know to have been off the cuff – that pushed the world toward a nuclear standoff last seen in the Cuban missile crisis." But "then came Tillerson...to assure us that there is nothing to see. It has become a familiar exercise: walking back, cleaning up and outright contradicting crazy things uttered by the man with the nuclear codes." Milbank says that there "have been other such cleanup actions, and there will inevitably be many more, as Trump's advisers try to convey to the world a perverse message: Rest assured, sleep well – and pay no attention to the president's yammering."

Along similar lines, Gloria Borger said on [CNN's Anderson Cooper 360](#) (8/9, 686K), "I think what you saw was Mattis and Tillerson kind of being the shovel brigade here and trying to clean up the mess the President made with his rhetoric. You saw Tillerson trying to tamp down everyone, saying everyone ought to sleep well at night. You saw Mattis – it was a muscular statement from Mattis about America's military power, but it didn't draw a red line saying if you threaten us again, watch out. It was kind of more generalized. So there was clearly a recognition that something had to be said after the President. If the President had not spoken, I don't think you would see those two statements from these two men today."

State Dept.: Administration "Singing From The Same Hymn Book" On North Korea. The [New York Post](#) (8/9, Moore, 3.2M) reports State Department spokeswoman Heather Nauert on Wednesday "dismissed a suggestion" that some in the Administration "weren't fully behind" President Trump's statements. Nauert said the Administration is "singing from the same hymn book" in its reaction to North Korea. "The United States is on the same page. ... We are speaking with one voice," she added. The [Washington Examiner](#) (8/9, Gehrke, 403K) reports Nauert also "scolded reporters...for being too interested in the US stance on North Korea." Her comment "rankled some reporters," including Matt Lee of the Associated Press, who said, "We're not 'obsessing' about this. This is the president of the United States threatening a nuclear-armed country...with 'fire and fury the likes of which the world has never seen.' I don't think it's obsessing to want to know, to have a further clarification of exactly what that means and whether or not it means that we're preparing to send 'fire and fury' raining down on the North Korean regime."

Washington Post conservative blogger Jennifer Rubin [tweeted](#), "State Dept: US speaking 'with one voice' on North Korea... you only say that when you're not."

WPost Analysis: Kelly "An Apolitical Force" In Divided White House. The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, A1, Costa, Rucker, 12.92M) reports that in an administration that "has split into factions and been ravaged by ideological warfare," Chief of Staff John Kelly has "asserted himself as a rare apolitical force." As Trump "bluntly addressed North Korean threats," Kelly has been "a constant by his side in Bedminster, N.J., keeping a low profile and serving as a neutral mediator more than a pacifier." According to the Post, Kelly is "one of a number of generals whom the president has come to rely on for national security guidance," along with Defense Secretary Mattis and National Security Adviser McMaster.

NORTH KOREA SAYS IT WILL HAVE PLAN TO STRIKE GUAM DEVELOPED "BY MID-AUGUST." [Reuters](#) (8/9, Kim, Kim) reports North Korean state-run media said Thursday that Pyongyang will develop a plan "by mid-August to launch four intermediate range missiles" at Guam "before presenting it to leader Kim Jong Un who will make a decision on whether to proceed." Reuters says the "unusually detailed report on the attack plan marked a further escalation in tensions" between Pyongyang and Washington one day after President Trump warned North Korea would face "fire and fury" if it threatened the US. North Korea called Trump's threat a "load of nonsense."

The [AP](#) (8/9, Lederman, Pennington) reports North Korea “officially dismissed...Trump’s threats,” calling the President “bereft of reason” and warning “ominously” that “only absolute force can work on him.” [Reuters](#) (8/9, Oliphant, Blanchard) quotes the state-run KCNA news agency as saying “sound dialogue is not possible with such a guy.”

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (8/9, Kaiman, 4.57M) reports North Korea responded to Trump’s threat “with vitriol.” In a statement, the Korean People’s Army threatened to “turn the US mainland into the theater of a nuclear war,” sending “a strong signal that Pyongyang’s nuclear ambitions remain unchecked.”

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Cheng, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports North Korea said it would be “closely watching the speech and behavior of the US,” and [USA Today](#) (8/9, James, 10.05M) reports North Korean media said the purpose of the missile launch will be “to interdict the enemy forces on major military bases on Guam and to signal a crucial warning to the US.”

The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Sang-Hun, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that “in addition to serving as a warning to the United States, the proposed missile firings would also be a challenge to Japan,” noting that “some of the North Korean missiles launched in recent months have fallen in waters near Japan.” The [New York Post](#) (8/9, Brown, 3.2M) also reports North Korea’s response, and the [Los Angeles Times](#) (8/9, King, 4.57M) notes that “at a distance of about 2,100 miles, Guam lies closer to North Korea than any other US territory.”

The [AP](#) (8/9, Bordallo, Bussewitz), meanwhile, reports Guam residents “say they’re afraid of being caught in the middle of escalating tensions between the US and North Korea,” but “local officials downplayed any threat.” Secretary of State Tillerson was also “unruffled as he headed to Guam to refuel on his trip back to Washington from Malaysia.” Said Tillerson, “I do not believe that there is any imminent threat.”

Media Analyses: US Missile Defenses Lack Real-World Tests. Martha Raddatz said on [ABC World News Tonight](#) (8/9, story 2, 0:55, Muir, 14.63M) that while Trump’s statement “was a surprise to many” and “war is the last thing anyone at the Pentagon wants to see happen,” Pacific Command has been updating its “war planning, and they are certainly focusing on defensive measures.” [Reuters](#) (8/9, Stone) reports that the US military says its missile defense system and network of radars “allow it to successfully track and destroy incoming warheads,” but “test conditions do not accurately mimic those of wartime and critics are skeptical the country can truly defend itself.” On May 30 the Missile Defense Agency held its 10th successful test, in 18 attempts, of the Ground-based Midcourse Defense (GMD) system, but the test “took place during daytime and intercepted a single incoming missile. Few experts expect either of those assumptions to be likely if North Korea launched an attack.”

The [CBS Evening News](#) (8/9, story 2, 2:10, Mason, 11.17M) reported the US is “scheduled to conduct an annual military exercise in South Korea later this month,” and Cynthia McFadden reported on [NBC Nightly News](#) (8/9, story 2, 3:35, Holt, 16.61M) that the Pentagon has already prepared a “specific strike plan for a preemptive attack” that would involve B-1 bombers targeting “approximately two dozen North Korean missile launch sites and support facilities, which intelligence officials tell NBC News they feel confident they have accurately identified.”

North Korea Frees Jailed Canadian Pastor. The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Choe, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that Canadian pastor Rev. Lim Hyeon-soo, who had been sentenced to hard labor for life in North Korea, was released on humanitarian grounds on Wednesday, North Korean state-run media said. Lim was sentenced in December 2015 after the nation’s Supreme Court convicted him of carrying out “subversive plots” and committing “activities against” the country. North Korea gave no further details about his release.

FBI AGENTS EXECUTED SEARCH WARRANT AT MANAFORT HOME ON JULY 26. The

news that FBI agents raided the home of former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort in the early hours of July 26 is covered by all three broadcast networks and all the major national newspapers. The coverage itself, however, tends to be brief, particularly on print – where none of the newspaper reports exceed 500 words and most contain less than 300. Overall, media analysts said that the raid indicates that investigators do not fully trust Manafort, who spoke with them on the day before the operation.

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (8/9, story 3, 2:55, Muir, 14.63M) reported that “a dozen armed FBI agents” came to Manafort’s house, “reportedly waking him up, knocking on his bedroom door to execute the search warrant.” ABC’s Mary Bruce: “The agents seizing documents and other materials, part of the ongoing special counsel’s investigation into Russian meddling in the election, including possible collusion with the Trump campaign. ... Manafort’s team confirms that recent FBI raid. A spokesman adding, ‘Mr. Manafort has consistently cooperated with law enforcement and other serious inquiries and did so on this occasion as well.’”

[NBC Nightly News](#) (8/9, story 4, 1:45, Holt, 16.61M) reported that the raid shows “how intensely Special Counsel Robert Mueller is looking at former officials of the Trump campaign.” Julianna Goldman reported on the [CBS Evening News](#) (8/9, story 5, 2:10, Mason, 11.17M) that “legal experts say the search warrant indicates” that Mueller “doesn’t trust Manafort.” Former federal prosecutor Peter Zeidenberg: “It suggests that they are concerned about possible evidence destruction. ... I think that the takeaway is that they felt they weren’t getting full cooperation because if they did, they wouldn’t feel the need to take a step of getting a search warrant.”

Diane Gallagher reported on [CNN’s Situation Room](#) (8/9, 554K) that US officials say investigators became suspicious of Manafort when intelligence agencies intercepted communications of suspected Russian operatives “who were discussing their efforts to work with Manafort to coordinate effort that could hurt Hillary Clinton’s presidential campaign.” The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Schmidt, Goldman, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that the raid came on the morning after Manafort met with investigators for the Senate Intelligence Committee and “answered questions and provided investigators with notes from a 2016 meeting between Trump campaign officials and Russians claiming to have damaging information” on Clinton.

The [AP](#) (8/9) reports, “Manafort has been a subject of a longstanding FBI investigation into his dealings in Ukraine and work for” that country’s former president Viktor Yanukovich. Mueller “is also investigating Manafort as part of his probe into Russia’s meddling in the 2016 election and any possible collusion with Trump associates.” [USA Today](#) (8/9, Johnson, Estepa, 10.05M) reports that the raid “targeted documents and other materials.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Wilber, Forrest, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports that on the day after the raid, Manafort’s spokesman and one of his attorneys said they knew nothing about any such operation.

The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Leonnig, Hamburger, Helderman, 12.92M) reports that though Manafort “has been voluntarily producing documents to congressional committees,” the search warrant “indicates investigators may have argued to a federal judge they had reason to believe Manafort could not be trusted to turn over all records in response to a grand jury subpoena” and may “have been intended to send a message to President Trump’s former campaign chairman that he should not expect gentle treatment or legal courtesies from Mueller’s team.” [Townhall](#) (8/9, O’Brien, 450K) reports that Manafort has “handed over 400 pages of documents” to the Senate Intelligence Committee.

Jeffrey Toobin said on [CNN’s Situation Room](#) (8/9, 554K), “Let’s just look at what had to happen here. The Office of the Special Counsel went to a magistrate judge and said, ‘We have probable cause to believe that there is evidence of a crime in these documents or in the materials sought in this apartment.’ The magistrate judge agreed and gave them the search warrant. Magistrate judges don’t give authorization for searches of people’s homes lightly. This is a big deal.”

Andrew McCarthy of [National Review](#) (8/9, 754K) writes, "There are two possible rationales for a search warrant under the circumstances. First, the legitimate rationale: Investigators in good faith believed Manafort, who is either a subject of or witness in their investigation, was likely to destroy rather than surrender relevant evidence. Second, the brass-knuckles rationale: The prosecutor is attempting to intimidate the witness or subject – to say nothing of others who are similarly situated – into volunteering everything he may know."

Gabriel Debenedetti of [Politico](#) [tweeted](#), "Sen Blumenthal (ex-US attorney+AG): 'Apparently there is now no question of clear evidence connecting Manafort to some criminal wrongdoing'". Laurence Tribe [tweeted](#), "It shows a federal judge was persuaded that #Manafort hid evidence of serious crime at home & might well destroy it." Bush Administration chief ethics lawyer Richard Painter [tweeted](#), "Closing in..."

[Reuters](#) (8/9, Lynch, Zengerle), the [Washington Times](#) (8/9, Noble, 458K), [Politico](#) (8/9, Samuelsohn, Dawsey, Wright, 2.97M), and [The Hill](#) (8/9, Savransky, 1.61M) also have brief reports.

Investigators Sought Cooperation From Manafort's Son-In-Law. [Politico](#) (8/9, Dawsey, Samuelsohn, 2.97M) reports that federal investigators sought cooperation from Manafort's son-in-law Jeffrey Yohai earlier this summer, according to three people familiar with the probe. While it is unclear if they have secured Yohai's cooperation, their efforts to contact him set off "real waves" in Manafort's orbit, according to one of the sources. Politico says that targeting both Manafort and his son-in-law is a "familiar tactic in white-collar cases."

Fusion GPS Turns Over Dossier Documents To Senate Judiciary Committee. The [Daily Caller](#) (8/9, Ross, 680K) reports that Fusion GPS, "the opposition research firm behind the Trump dossier, turned over thousands of pages of documents to the Senate Judiciary Committee late Wednesday," but the documents "do not appear to be what the committee was hoping that Fusion GPS and its founder, Glenn Simpson, would provide." A spokesman for the committee said, "The committee is reviewing the production received late this afternoon from Mr. Simpson, but virtually all of the documents appear to be merely news clippings rather than records of Fusion's substantive communications."

Conservative Group Claims DNC's Work With Ukraine Broke Law. [The Hill](#) (8/9, Easley, 1.61M) reported that the "conservative" watchdog group Foundation for Accountability & Civic Trust filed a complaint with the Federal Election Commission on Wednesday alleging that the Democratic National Committee "violated federal law by soliciting opposition research on the Trump campaign from a foreign government." The group was to "allege that political operative Alexandra Chalupa, in her capacity as a DNC consultant, improperly sought intelligence" on Manafort from Ukrainian officials.

Russian Spy Plane Makes Authorized Flight Over Washington, Past Bedminster. [Fox News Special Report](#) (8/9, 1.53M) reported a Russian spy plane flew over the Washington area on Wednesday, but "it's not a prelude to an invasion." Instead it was permitted under the Open Skies Treaty, which "allows the US and Russia to conduct surveillance flights in each other's countries." The [AP](#) (8/9, Riechmann) reports that the "surveillance flight over the Capitol, Pentagon and other sites" had been "cleared by the US government." However, [Politico](#) (8/9, Wolfe, Bender, 2.97M) reports, the "perfectly legal bit of aerial reconnaissance...nonetheless appeared to be an attempt to troll" President Trump, since the flight went "past Bedminster, N.J., where the president is vacationing at one of his golf clubs." A Pentagon official said, "I don't know of any military facilities there."

DOJ ATTORNEY HELPED EDIT OBAMA TALKING POINTS ON LUNCH-CLINTON MEETING. The [Washington Free Beacon](#) (8/9, Crabtree, 117K) reports that Paige Herwig, who was "one of former Attorney General Loretta Lynch's top lawyers at the Justice Department helped edit Obama administration press statements about the infamous meeting between Lynch and Bill

Clinton on a tarmac last summer." According to newly released DOJ emails, Herwig helped "edit the first media statement responding to inquiries about the tarmac meeting." Citing the Free Beacon report, the [Washington Examiner](#) (8/9, Shepherd, 403K) says Herwig "is now a top attorney for Democrats in the Senate Judiciary Committee, which is currently investigating Lynch over concerns she may have tried to influence the FBI's investigation into Hillary Clinton." Herwig "is one of several lawyers who will have access to and knowledge of how the Senate Judiciary's investigation of Lynch is proceeding." The [Washington Times](#) (8/9, Boylan, 458K) also reports on Herwig's current position, citing the Free Beacon report.

Hemingway: Media Coverage Of Tarmac Meeting Was "Less Than Enthusiastic." In a piece for [The Federalist](#) (8/9, Hemingway, 109K), Mollie Hemingway writes that while the tarmac meeting "raised alarms among many Americans," as "was so frequently the case from the years 2008-2016, major media reporters were less than enthusiastic in the face of a potential major Obama administration scandal." Hemingway cites several examples and concludes that the media "have an obvious tendency to put stories to rest – or unduly hype them – depending on the party identification of the subject in question," which, he writes, is "a dereliction of duty for a great country's free press."

JUDGE ORDERS STATE TO SEARCH AGAIN FOR CLINTON EMAILS ON BENGHAZI ATTACK. [Politico](#) (8/9, Gerstein, 2.97M) reports in its "Under The Radar" blog that US District Court Judge Amit Mehta "is ordering the State Department to try again to find emails Hillary Clinton wrote about the Benghazi attack." Mehta ruled that the Department "had not done enough to try to track down messages Clinton may have sent about the assault on the US diplomatic compound on Sept. 11, 2012."

GRASSLEY WANTS IMMIGRATION FILES OF HOUSE DEMOCRATIC IT LEAKERS. [Townhall](#) (8/9, O'Brien, 450K) describes the arrest of Imran Awan, who "was a congressional IT specialist for several Democratic members of the House of Representatives, including former DNC Chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz," at Dulles International airport as he was "attempting to board a flight to Pakistan" as a "scandal" for House Democrats, "although the mainstream media doesn't seem too interested in it." Townhall adds that Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley is "demanding the immigration files of the IT leakers." Grassley has written a [letter](#) to Homeland Security Acting Secretary Elaine Duke and "expects an answer by August 18."

TRANSGENDER SERVICE MEMBERS SUE TRUMP OVER BAN. In the first legal action since President Trump's policy change on transgender persons serving in the US military, [McClatchy](#) (8/9, Bergengruen, 95K) reports, five active-duty transgender service members have sued Trump "over his directive to ban them from the US military." The "unnamed service members, who are referred to as 'Jane Doe,'" and "are serving in the Air Force, Army and the Coast Guard," argue in the suit filed by the National Center for Lesbian Rights and GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders, "that reversing the Pentagon's current policy is unconstitutional and denies transgender service members equal protection and due process." [Reuters](#) (8/9, Trotta) says the suit "asks the court to declare Trump's directive as unconstitutional and to issue injunctions to stop it."

The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Savage, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that while other groups including Lambda, Outserve, and the ACLU "have also said they are preparing lawsuits," they are "holding off until the Trump administration takes a step to put the ban into effect, such as issuing formal guidance to the military or beginning the process of changing military rules."

ARPAIO WON'T SEEK, BUT WOULD WELCOME PARDON FROM TRUMP. The [Arizona Republic](#) (8/9, Cassidy, 10.05M) reports that former Maricopa County, AZ Sheriff Joe Arpaio "says he would welcome a presidential pardon for his criminal contempt conviction, although he concedes he's not aware of whether his political ally has been briefed on his legal woes. 'Whatever the president wants me to do, I would support him,' Arpaio told The Arizona Republic by phone Wednesday. 'If he needs help with anything, of course I'm going to help him.'" However, Arpaio said "he wouldn't be the one to make the call. 'I'm not going to ask him,' Arpaio said. 'I

think, I believe he may not even know about this, which will become a different story in a couple days, with a bigger, much bigger picture than just me.”

The [AP](#) (8/9) reports that Arpaio “brushed off his recent criminal conviction in federal court as a ‘petty crime’ and has not said he would seek a pardon from President Trump, despite the pair regularly sharing the stage at political rallies during the 2016 campaign.” Arpaio “said he was astonished he was found guilty of a crime last week after more than 50 years in law enforcement. ‘S-U-R-P-R-I-S-E-D,’ Arpaio said of his conviction on a misdemeanor for defying a court order to stop traffic patrols that targeted immigrants.” Arpaio said “he won’t rule out running for office again and remains steadfast in his support of Trump. ‘I was with him since Day One, and I am with him until the end. I don’t ask him for anything. He can throw me into the swamp and cover me up in garbage, and I’d still support him,’ Arpaio said.”

WEST VIRGINIA GOVERNOR SEEKS FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR EASTERN COAL. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Molinski, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports that West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice, who became a Republican this week, is asking President Trump to provide \$4.5 billion per year in federal funding for eastern coal. Justice told the Journal, “The survivability of the eastern coalfields is very, very iffy. And if you lose the Eastern coalfields, you are putting the country at risk beyond belief.” Miners in western states said the proposal defies free-market principles.

SMALL-BUSINESS OWNER OPTIMISM ROSE LAST MONTH. The [Washington Times](#) (8/9, Miller, 458K) reports, “Small-business owners have grown more confident in the economy since President Trump took office,” according to the National Federation of Independent Businesses Index of Small Business Optimism, which “ticked up 1.6 points last month to 105.2.” NFIB members “strongly favor Mr. Trump’s agenda for deregulation, tax reform and repealing Obamacare,” though they are “painfully aware of the lack of progress of everything but regulations,” the group’s communications director said.

Productivity Rose At 0.9 Percent Rate Last Quarter. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Leubsdorf, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports that worker productivity rose at a 0.9 percent rate in the second quarter, up from a 0.1 percent growth rate in the first quarter. Despite the increase, the Journal calls the gains modest, with a slow trend unlikely to end soon.

GOLFING PARTNER SAYS HE PLAYED 18 HOLES WITH TRUMP ON WEDNESDAY. The [Washington Examiner](#) (8/9, Lim, 403K) reports, “President Trump spent Wednesday playing 18 holes of golf at his Bedminster course, despite insisting his 17-day sojourn in New Jersey is not a vacation.” In a since-deleted [Instagram post](#), playing partner Mike Fazio wrote, “Fantastic day golfing with #45 @realdonaldtrump at Trump Bedminster today. We had an exciting match which came down to the 18th hole. I want to thank my good friend @newyorkrei for setting up such an awesome day. #Trump #POTUS #GOLF #USA #MAGA”. In a brief report on Fazio’s post, [USA Today](#) (8/9, Estepa, 10.05M) says that the White House “declined to say what the president was doing on Wednesday.”

Beginning Sunday, Trump Scheduled To Spend Three Nights At Trump Tower. [Politico](#) (8/9, Karni, 2.97M) reported that President Trump “on Sunday is scheduled to make his first visit to Trump Tower since his inauguration, according to a draft schedule shared with New York City law enforcement.” Trump is slated “to depart his Bedminster, New Jersey, golf club, where he has been working and vacationing this week, on Sunday afternoon and travel directly to Trump Tower, where he will hole up at his beloved, three-story penthouse on the 66th floor for three nights. According to the itinerary,” the President “is expected to hold ‘internal meetings’ at Trump Tower all day Monday and Tuesday before returning to Bedminster on Wednesday.”

DEVOS SAYS SHE SHOULD HAVE “MORE FORCEFULLY” DENOUNCED RACISM IN HBCU COMMENTS. The [AP](#) (8/9, Danilova, Feldman) reports that in a Wednesday interview, Education Secretary DeVos “distanced herself from her comment earlier this year about the nation’s

historically black colleges and universities being pioneers of school choice, saying that in the past 'there were no choices' for African-Americans in higher education." DeVos said, "When I talked about it being a pioneer in choice it was because I acknowledge that racism was rampant and there were no choices. These HBCUs provided choices for black students that they didn't have. ... I should have decried much more forcefully the ravages of racism in this country."

INTERIOR SEEKS EXPANSION OF HUNTING AND FISHING AT 10 NATURAL WILDLIFE REFUGES. The [Washington Examiner](#) (8/9, Jessen, 403K) reports that the Interior Department is seeking "to open or expand hunting and fishing recreational activities in 10 natural wildlife refuges." In a statement, Interior Secretary Zinke said, "These 10 refuges will provide incredible opportunities for sportsmen and anglers across the country to access the land and connect with the wildlife." The change would "bring the number of refuges where the public may hunt up to 373, and up to 312 where fishing would be permitted," according to the department.

CARSON ADDRESSES NATIONAL CONSERVATIVE STUDENT CONFERENCE. [Townhall](#) (8/9, Timmins, 450K) reports that HUD Secretary Carson addressed the Young America's Foundation National Conservative Student Conference, where he said HUD "is exploring ways to help graduates manage student debt and afford housing." Carson said that "the department is 'looking at ways of rolling the student debt into the mortgage all in one low interest package.'" Carson also said of HUD's mission, "It's not about just putting people under a roof, its about getting people to develop their God-given talent."

LABOR DEPARTMENT SEEKS DELAY IN FINAL FIDUCIARY RULE COMPLIANCE DEADLINE. The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Bernard, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that the Labor Department is seeking an 18-month delay in the "deadline for financial advisers to fully comply with a rule that would require them to act in their customers' best interest." The first part of the fiduciary rule took effect in June, but the "final pieces that are not yet in place are what gives the rule its teeth: Among other things, the rule would require financial professionals with conflicts of interest to sign a contract with customers, making the rule legally enforceable."

POLITICO ANALYSIS: BY ANY MEASUREMENT, TRUMP'S BASE "HAS DIMINISHED, NOT INCREASED." Under the headline "Trump Hits New Polling Low As Base Shrinks," [Politico](#) (8/9, Shepard, 2.97M) reported that President Trump "says his base of support is 'bigger and stronger than ever before.' But his claim is contradicted by a steady stream of recent polling showing that the share of Americans who approve of Trump's job performance is shrinking, along with the share of Americans most enthusiastic about his presidency. However you measure the president's base, it has diminished, not increased," since entering the White House. Politico said that a Politico/Morning Consult poll of 1,992 US voters, taken Aug. 3-6, shows Trump's approval rating at 40%, "the lowest point of his young presidency." The President's "approval rating among self-identified Trump voters is at 81 percent, down from 86 percent last week. And among Republican voters," Trump "is at 76 percent, down slightly from 79 percent last week." Politico said a number of other polls have found similar results.

Detroit News' Finley: Trump's Michigan Backers Remain Supportive. In his [Detroit News](#) (8/9, 747K) column, Nolan Finley writes, "The Trump base is not as angry as I expected, not as defensive and certainly not as disappointed in how the presidency of the man they carried into office is unfolding." Finley says that at a recent "Michigan Republicans for Trump rally," he "found a group of 80-100 diehard Trump backers as passionate and optimistic as they were on election night last fall. Where others see a White House in chaos, the Trump base sees a president fighting through historic resistance from Democrats, relentless attacks by the media and the despicable disloyalty of congressional Republicans and still getting things done."

Law Professor: Trump Won Because Of Social Conservatives. In a [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) op-ed, George Mason Scalia Law School professor F.H. Buckley writes that recent research from the Voter Study Group found that the election of Donald Trump was mostly defined by social rather than economic attitudes. The study indicated that 73 percent

fell left of center on economics but 52 percent were social conservatives – with crucial difference between Democrats and Republicans coming down to social concerns, such as immigration, patriotism, abortion, and gay marriage.

POLITICO MAG: “PRO-TRUMP TWITTER ROOMS” GIVE PRESIDENT “UNIQUE KIND OF CLOUT.” In a piece for [Politico Magazine](#) (8/9, Musgrave, 2.89M) headlined “Trump Nation’s Secret Twitter,” Shawn Musgrave discussed the proliferation of “pro-Trump ‘rooms,’ private spaces on conservative Twitter that allow followers to coordinate messages and then retweet each other – dramatically multiplying their impact.” Musgrave said, “The pro-Trump rooms are an outgrowth of Twitter’s group direct message function, which was introduced with little fanfare in January 2015,” when “Twitter was considered a decidedly liberal bastion. But the platform – as well as its group direct message function – proved to be especially useful for the type of populist outsider movement spurred by Trump, whose denunciations of elitist figures and institutions were easily conveyed in” tweets. Musgrave added that Trump’s “fiercely loyal social media network...continues to lend a president who is highly unpopular by conventional polling metrics a unique kind of clout.”

JUDGE GRANTS TRUMP ATTORNEYS’ REQUEST TO APPEAL RULING IN RALLY SUIT. [Politico](#) (8/9, Gerstein, 2.97M) reported that US District Court Judge David Hale on Wednesday “authorized an appeal that could scuttle a lawsuit over violence at a Trump campaign rally, putting the case on hold and averting the possibility that President Donald Trump could be forced into a deposition in the case in the near future. The three protesters who brought the suit against Trump over their treatment at the March 2016 rally in Louisville were also seeking access to the president’s tax returns, but that effort will now be stalled while a federal appeals court deals with broader legal issues in the case.” The judge granted “a request from Trump’s legal team to appeal an earlier ruling by Hale declining to throw out the case.” The President’s attorneys “contend that when he responded to the protest by declaring, ‘Get ‘em out of here!’ Trump’s statement was protected by the First Amendment because it could not be seen as advocating violence.”

BROOKS SAYS MCCONNELL “MISLED” TRUMP INTO BACKING STRANGE. The [AP](#) (8/8, Chandler) reports that in the wake of President Trump’s Tuesday endorsement of appointed Sen. Luther Strange (R) in Alabama’s special election for the former seat of Attorney General Sessions, Rep. Mo Brooks (R) on Wednesday said “that he’s more aligned with Trump’s agenda than Strange, the candidate of a Washington ‘swamp’ establishment who gets his support from a super political action committee tied to Majority Leader Mitch McConnell.” Brooks said in statement, “I respect President Trump, but I am baffled and disappointed Mitch McConnell and the Swamp somehow misled the President into endorsing Luther Strange,” Brooks and ex-state Supreme Court Justice Roy Moore (R) are Strange’s leading rivals in the crowded Aug. 15 GOP primary.

[The Hill](#) (8/9, Savransky, 1.61M) further quoted Brooks as saying in his statement, “Perhaps the President is unaware that Luther Strange corruptly and unethically held a criminal investigation over the head of disgraced Governor Bentley to obtain the senate appointment.” The Hill added, “In February, then-Gov. Robert Bentley (R) appointed Strange to temporarily fill the Senate seat. ... As the state’s attorney general, Strange had been involved in an investigation surrounding Bentley, who later resigned and pleaded guilty to misdemeanor charges related to an affair with an aide.”

[Roll Call](#) (8/9, Garcia, 91K) reported that in his statement, Brooks “also said Strange wants to keep in place the filibuster rule in the Senate ‘that empowers Chuck Schumer and the Democrats to kill the entire conservative, Republican, and President Trump legislative agendas.’” One day earlier, Brooks “released an ad calling McConnell a ‘Swamp King’ and featuring Brooks standing beside Trump in the Oval Office.”

The [Birmingham \(AL\) News](#) (8/9, Cason, 842K) reports that Moore on Wednesday “said he did

not know why" Trump backed Strange, "but said he would continue to support Trump's agenda." Said Moore, "I think the people are not voting for President Trump. They're voting for his agenda, which I firmly believe in. ... They're voting to see the next senator of the state of Alabama and I don't think President Trump is running for senator of Alabama. So it will be on our credentials."

Under the headline "Trump Endorsement Could Shake Up Ala. Special Election," [The Hill](#) (8/9, Kamisar, 1.61M) reported that Trump's endorsement of Strange "adds more uncertainty to the" contest. An "unaffiliated Alabama Republican strategist" told The Hill, "The current electorate is pretty much decided, and I don't think the Trump endorsement changes a whole lot with those voters. But what it could potentially change is the turnout. There are voters out there who weren't interested who now may become interested because of Trump's endorsement."

In Digital Ad, McConnell-Aligned Super PAC Touts Endorsement. Meanwhile, [The Hill](#) (8/9, Kamisar, 1.61M) reported that the Senate Leadership Fund, a super PAC operated by allies of McConnell, highlighted Trump's backing of Strange "with a new digital ad push on Wednesday." The Hill said, "The short digital ad targeting Alabama Republican primary voters" shows "the tweet featuring Trump's endorsement along with pictures of both Trump and Strange. 'President Trump endorses Luther Strange for Senate. Vote for Luther Strange on Aug. 15,' the narrator says."

CNN LIST OF 10 SENATE SEATS "MOST LIKELY TO FLIP" IN 2018 INCLUDES EIGHT DEMOCRATS. On its website, [CNN](#) (8/9, Bradner, 44.83M) offered its "first Senate race ranking of the 10 seats most likely to flip in" next year's midterm elections. Topping the list is the seat held by Sen. Dean Heller (R) 2018, followed by those held by Sens. Claire McCaskill (D), Joe Donnelly (D); Joe Manchin (D), Jeff Flake (R), Jon Tester (D), Heidi Heitkamp (D), Tammy Baldwin (D), Sherrod Brown (D), and Bill Nelson (D).

TRUMP-ALLY MERCER DONATES \$300K TO SUPER PAC WORKING TO OUST FLAKE IN GOP PRIMARY. [Politico](#) (8/9, Isenstadt, 2.97M) reported that "reclusive hedge fund billionaire" Robert Mercer, "who was intimately involved in" the ascent of President Trump "and helped to bankroll his 2016 campaign," is making "a six-figure donation to a super PAC devoted to" ousting Sen. Jeff Flake (R-AZ) in next year's GOP primary. Mercer is donating "\$300,000 to a super PAC" backing ex-state Sen. Kelli Ward's (R-AZ) primary challenge to Flake, "who has been fiercely critical of" Trump. Politico added that Mercer's donation is "the latest sign that Trump's political machine is preparing to take on Flake, whose persistent attacks have angered the president."

[The Hill](#) (8/9, Easley, 1.61M) called Mercer's donation "a sign that Trump's allies may be girding for battle against Republican incumbents they view as insufficiently loyal to the president." The Hill added that Mercer, "who along with daughter Rebekah Mercer invested heavily in the Trump campaign, previously gave \$700,000 to Ward's PAC in 2016, when she sought to unseat Sen. John McCain. McCain won the primary, 50 percent to 41."

IN ATLANTA, PROGRESSIVES TO DISCUSS ANTI-TRUMP "RESISTANCE." The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Weigel, 12.92M) reports that Netroots Nation, "the activist left's largest annual gathering," will convene "in Atlanta this year with its clearest focus in years: how to resist President Trump. Former Vice President Gore will speak about the threats to the planet from a president who dismisses climate change as a hoax hatched" by China, while Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN) "will ring alarm bells about domestic policy. And 14 separate sessions will discuss the best ways to fight the White House and Republican Congress." Netroots Nation spokeswoman Mary Rickles told the Post that the focus of this year's gathering will be, "How do we channel the energy of resistance into helping progressives win elections?"

"Huge Inflatable Chicken" Set Up Near White House. Under the headline "Giant Inflatable Trump-Like Chicken Graces The White House," the [New York Post](#) (8/9, Moore, 3.2M) reports, "A huge inflatable chicken with orange hair and wings in the shape of President Trump's hands was looming near the White House on Wednesday afternoon. The 23-foot-tall poultry prop is similar to

the inflatable chicken that protesters have used to egg on Trump to release his personal tax returns during Tax Day events on April 15." The report includes a photo of the chicken

"CRITICS" SAY TRUMP'S VOTER FRAUD COMMISSION CREATES HACKING RISK. The [AP](#) (8/9, Mulvihill) reports, "Officials from both major political parties" said in 2016 that "US elections are so decentralized that it would be impossible for hackers to manipulate ballot counts or voter rolls on a wide scale." However, says the AP, "the voter fraud commission established by President Donald Trump could take away that one bit of security." It "has requested information on voters from every state and recently won a federal court challenge to push ahead with the collection, keeping it in one place. By compiling a national list of registered voters, the federal government could provide one-stop shopping for hackers and hostile foreign governments seeking to wreak havoc with elections, critics say." Kentucky Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes (D), "who has refused to send data to the commission," told the AP, "Coordinating a national voter registration system located in the White House is akin to handing a zip drive to Russia."

"VULNERABLE" HELLER UNDER ASSAULT FROM RIGHT AND LEFT. The [AP](#) (8/9, Sonner) reports, "On the same day" that businessman Danny Tarkanian (R) announced a 2018 primary challenger to Sen. Dean Heller (R), "dozens of mostly Democratic protesters rallied outside his Reno office to denounce his latest position on health care. The attacks illustrate the political angst on both the right and the left that Heller will have to navigate to be re-elected next year in his role as arguably the most vulnerable incumbent Republican in the US. Heller already has voted both ways on health care," opposing "two Trump-backed measures – one to replace the" Affordable Care Act, "the other to repeal and come up with a replacement in the future. He later backed a final stripped-down bill known as 'skinny repeal,' which also failed." The AP adds that Tarkanian's bid "makes good on conservatives' threats to challenge incumbents they blame for hurting their yearslong quest to dismantle the" ACA.

QUINNIPIAC POLL: NORTHAM LEADS GILLESPIE 44%-38% IN VIRGINIA GOVERNOR'S RACE. The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Nirappil, 12.92M) reports that a Quinnipiac University survey of 1,082 Virginia voters, taken Aug. 3-8, shows Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam (D) leading ex-RNC chief Ed Gillespie (R) 44%-38% in the 2017 race to succeed term-limited Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D); Libertarian candidate Cliff Hyra drew 4% in the poll. The Post adds, "Quinnipiac's last polling of the Virginia governor's race, shortly after the June 13 primary, gave Northam an eight-point lead and did not include Hyra as an option."

The [Richmond \(VA\) Times-Dispatch](#) (8/9, Cain, 338K) reports, "The race is competitive in spite of President Donald Trump's low approval rating in Virginia – the only Southern state the president did not carry." In the poll, Trump's approval rating stands at 36%, with 61% disapproving. The Times-Dispatch adds, "Northam led Gillespie by 5 percentage points in a Virginia Commonwealth University poll released on Tuesday. Gillespie and Northam were tied at 44 percent apiece in a July 24 poll released by Monmouth University's Polling Institute."

EX-MICHELLE OBAMA POLICY DIRECTOR VIGNARAJAH RUNNING FOR MARYLAND GOVERNOR. The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Wiggins, 12.92M) reports that Krishanti Vignarajah (D), "a onetime policy director for former first lady Michelle Obama, announced Wednesday that she plans to" launch a 2018 bid to oust Gov. Larry Hogan (R-MD), "becoming the first woman to join the crowded field for the 2018 Democratic nomination. Vignarajah plans an official campaign announcement next month." She will join a crowded Democratic primary that includes, among others, Prince George's County Executive Rushern L. Baker III (D-MD) and ex-NAACP chief Ben Jealous (D).

The [Baltimore Sun](#) (8/9, Wood, 703K) reports that in an interview, Vignarajah "said her 'personal narrative' is an antithesis to the rhetoric from President Donald J. Trump – a message that can inspire Democrats. 'We live in a day where the president of our country thinks everything I am is what's wrong with America,' she said. 'I'm a woman. I'm a minority. I'm an immigrant and

I'm a new mom. I think each of those aspects of my identity provides a valuable perspective that will color and shape what I talk about on the campaign trail."

[The Hill](#) (8/9, Greenwood, 1.61M) reported that in a statement, Vignarajah accused Hogan "of running a 'deficit in leadership.' 'Most of my life, Maryland has been a beacon of hope, opportunity, innovation, and courage. We led the nation in school performance, job creation, and conservation,' she said. 'But today too many of the students who can least afford to be left behind have been forgotten altogether. Too many workers have been left out. And our precious Chesapeake Bay faces its greatest risks in decades.'"

THE HILL: OBAMA'S MAJOR DONORS DECLINING TO COMMIT TO BIDEN IN 2020. [The Hill](#) (8/9, Parnes, 1.61M) reported, "Major donors to former President Barack Obama aren't committing to Joe Biden" for the 2020 race for president. The Hill said it "contacted more than 10 top donors to Obama for this story. None of them would commit to backing Biden, and many of them said they preferred to find a new voice to run against President Trump in 2020." In the wake of Hillary Clinton's "stunning" loss to Trump, "the donors say they are picking up on the party's mood for a new direction."

HILLARY CLINTON WANTS TO BE A PREACHER. [McClatchy](#) (8/9, Quillin, 95K) reports that Hillary Clinton "wants to be a preacher, and a Duke Divinity School alum who served as her spiritual adviser during the 2016 presidential campaign says Clinton would be powerful in the pulpit. 'I think she would be a terrific preacher,' said the Rev. Bill Shillady, who has been a friend and a pastor to the Clinton family for 15 years. 'She knows her Bible, and she loves people and she loves God.'"

NYTIMES ANALYSIS: ALT-RIGHT TARGETING SILICON VALLEY OVER ALLEGED "LIBERAL BIAS." Under the headline "The Alt-Right Finds A New Enemy In Silicon Valley," the [New York Times](#) (8/9, Roose, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports, "For the last several months," members of "the alt-right" have waged "an aggressive political campaign against some of Silicon Valley's biggest players. Extending their attacks beyond social networks like Facebook and Twitter, tech's typical free-speech battlegrounds, they have accused a long list of companies, including Airbnb, PayPal and Patreon, of censoring right-wing views, and have pledged to expose Silicon Valley for what they say is a pervasive, industrywide liberal bias. Complaints like these might once have been easily dismissed. But in the Trump era, as the right wing's internet warriors have refined their tactics and gained legitimate political influence, they are putting Silicon Valley in an uncomfortable position."

Tracinski: Damore Firing A "Preview Of All The Steps Necessary To Prepare A Country For Totalitarianism." Writing for [The Federalist](#) (8/9, 109K), Robert Tracinski said, "Google could decide that its mission is not to provide us with access to information but to police our views to make sure they are politically correct. The warning shot is the way Google recently fired one of its high-level engineers, James Damore, for posting on an internal discussion board an anonymous memo making a measured argument against the company's approach to 'diversity.'" Tracinski added that "the reaction to" the firing of Damore reveals just "how many people are willing to cheer on and participate in the ruthless suppression of dissent against the prevailing orthodoxy. We are being given a preview of all the steps necessary to prepare a country for totalitarianism."

Author: Women "Were Foundational To The Field" Of Computing. In a [Washington Post](#) (8/9, 12.92M) op-ed, University of Wisconsin-Madison assistant professor Marie Hicks, author of "Programmed Inequality: How Britain Discarded Women Technologists and Lost Its Edge in Computing," writes that Damore's claims in his memo that "women are more prone to 'neuroticism' and less likely to pursue leadership roles in the tech industry because of 'biological differences'" is "wildly inaccurate. Women are not worse at computing than men. In fact, history shows they were foundational to the field. When women suffer, so too does computing."

Airbnb Cancels Accounts, Bookings Associated With "White Nationalist Rally" In Virginia. The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Bromwich, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that Airbnb "has canceled a number of accounts and bookings associated with the Unite the Right Free Speech Rally" slated for Saturday in Charlottesville, Virginia. Described by the Times as "a white nationalist rally," the event "seeks to affirm the right of Southerners and white people to organize for their interests," according to an event description on Facebook. Airbnb confirmed that it had canceled the accounts of some users who were involved with the event, citing the company's request that its users sign a commitment to 'accept people regardless of their race, religion, national origin, ethnicity, disability, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or age.'"

YIANNOPOULOS, GROUPS SUE WASHINGTON METRO TRANSIT SYSTEM OVER AD POLICY. The [Washington Times](#) (8/9, Swayer, 458K) reports that "controversial conservative" Milo Yiannopoulos on Wednesday filed suit against the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, "demanding the agency restore ads for his book in its subways." The agency, "known as Metro, pulled the ads last month after complaints by riders, saying it had belatedly concluded the ads violated guidelines governing politically charged material." Yiannopoulos "has asked for a preliminary injunction to force Metro to restore the ads. And he was joined in his broader lawsuit by the American Civil Liberties Union, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and Carafem, a nonprofit women's health organization, each of which want to run ads Metro has rejected. The groups say the refusals violate the First and 14th Amendments."

LGBT GROUPS FINANCE ORGANIZATIONS PREDICTING ECONOMIC HARM OVER "SOCIALLY CONSERVATIVE" BILLS. The [Washington Times](#) (8/9, Richardson, 458K) reports that the Texas Association of Business "has been an outspoken opponent of the state's proposed transgender bathroom bill, predicting the legislation will lead to a massive economic backlash and cost the state as much as \$8.5 billion in lost business. The Indiana Chamber of Commerce was similarly alarmed by the 2015 push for the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, arguing that it would negatively affect the state's 'ability to attract and retain jobs, talent and investment.'" The Times says, "These small-business coalitions and others across the country share a common source of funding: the national gay rights movement." The Times adds, "Prominent gay rights organizations, including the Human Rights Campaign and the Gill Foundation, have" pumped "hundreds of thousands of dollars into a network of small-business coalitions that routinely make doom-and-gloom economic prognostications about socially conservative legislation."

NYTIMES A1: CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATS' SKIRMISH "A CAUTIONARY TALE" FOR NATIONAL PARTY. The [New York Times](#) (8/9, A1, Nagourney, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports on its front page that while the California Democratic Party "controls every statewide office and commands supermajorities in the Legislature," Democrats in the state have recently "emerged as...a cautionary tale for a national party debating how to rebuild and seize back power." The Times says California Democrats are in the midst of "a bitter fight for the party leadership, revealing the kind of divisions – between insiders and outsiders, liberals and moderates – that unsettled the national party last year and could threaten its success in coming years." The battle "pits Eric C. Bauman, a longtime party leader, against Kimberly Ellis, a Bay Area activist." Bauman was elected state Democratic Party chair "by just over 60 votes out of 3,000 cast at the party convention in May, but Ms. Ellis has refused to concede, claiming voting improprieties, like permitting ineligible people to vote for Mr. Bauman."

CONYERS MAY HAVE VIOLATED HOUSE RULES WITH STAFFER PAY. The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, Viebeck, 12.92M) reports that an Office of Congressional Ethics report released Wednesday stated "that there is strong reason to believe" that Rep. John Conyers Jr. (D-MI) "violated House rules by authorizing pay" for his former chief of staff Cynthia Martin, who "received compensation between April and August 2016 despite statements from other staff members that she no longer worked in the office at the time." Conyers "denied wrongdoing," and the House Ethics Committee said it is reviewing the allegations.

MENENDEZ FACING FEDERAL CORRUPTION TRIAL. The [Washington Free Beacon](#) (8/9,

Scher, 117K) reports that a federal judge on Wednesday rejected a request by Sen. Bob Menendez (D-NJ) to dismiss a case against him in which he is accused of providing political favors to a Florida ophthalmologist “in exchange for campaign contributions and gifts.” Menendez – whose attorneys argue that none of the alleged favors offered constituted “official acts” – had requested the case be dropped “on account of the Supreme Court’s 2016 decision to overturn the corruption conviction” of former Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell.

FBI SEARCHES HUNTER CAMPAIGN TREASURER’S OFFICE. [Roll Call](#) (8/9, Stewart, 91K) reports that FBI agents “seized computer equipment, communication, financial and travel records” from the Virginia office of Rep. Duncan Hunter’s (R-CA) campaign treasurer “as part of an ongoing investigation into possible misuse” by the congressman “of campaign money,” according to a warrant unsealed in March. The warrant said agents “were searching for any documents showing whether Hunter used campaign funds for personal reasons” and were “seeking any evidence that Hunter’s campaign falsified Federal Election Committee reports or similar reports with the intent to ‘impede or influence’ an investigation.”

SCIENTIFIC PAPER: SEA LEVELS ROSE ALONG SOUTHEASTERN US IN RECENT YEARS. The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Gillis, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that a paper published Wednesday by three University of Florida scientists shows that from 2011 to 2015, “the sea level along the American coastline south of Cape Hatteras rose six times faster than the long-term rate of global increase” – bolstering the claims of those concerned about tidal flooding in the southeastern United States. The report proposed that “rapid increase” may have resulted from two “large-scale atmospheric patterns” that “had intersected to push up the water off the Southeast coast, causing a ‘hot spot’ of sea-level rise.” If the proposed mechanism withstands scientific scrutiny, it “might ultimately give researchers the ability to predict tidal flooding more accurately and warn communities what to expect months in advance.”

WSJOURNAL ANALYSIS: INDIANA HIGHWAY PROJECT OFFERS CAUTIONARY TALE OF PRIVATE INVESTMENT. In an analysis, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, McWhirter, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) reports that a project to build 21 miles of highway in southern Indiana is serving what some detractors describe as an example of the problems with public-private infrastructure investment projects. The Indiana highway addition was approved by then Gov. Mike Pence in 2014 but now stands two years behind schedule and only 60 percent completed after a Spanish construction company hired to build the road ran into unrelated legal hurdles and other companies hired filed for bankruptcy.

BALTIMORE STRUGGLES TO DEAL WITH POLICE SCANDALS, SURGING VIOLENCE. The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Pérez-Peña, Stolberg, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that “since Freddie Gray died in April 2015 from injuries suffered in police custody,” Baltimore “has endured rioting, the failed prosecution of six officers charged in Mr. Gray’s death, a surge in violent crime, and a jump in drug overdose deaths.” A “lacerating” Justice Department report “documented systematic racial bias and abuse by the Baltimore Police Department, drawing we-told-you-so’s from the city’s black majority.” City officials “have made vow after vow to change, including agreeing to a consent decree with the Justice Department to overhaul the way the police operate,” and on Wednesday, Mayor Catherine E. Pugh “announced new anti-violence measures, including increasing street patrols by moving officers out of clerical and administrative posts, improving the analysis of crime data and supplying the police with equipment that other cities take for granted.”

INVESTORS WORRY PERMIAN OIL PRODUCTION LOW. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Sider, 6.99M) reports that oil investors are growing concerned that Permian – the west Texas oilfield expected to drive US oil production in the coming years – is producing too much gas and natural gas liquids, a worry that follows a report by Permian producers last week. Pioneer Natural Resources, a large holder of Permian wells, says the finding just means there is more gas, not less oil, which analysts also defended.

FLORIDA DEATH ROW INMATES SUE FOR EQUAL TREATMENT. The [Washington Times](#) (8/9, Swoyer, 458K) reports that Florida prison inmates “are mounting a challenge to their state’s death row policies,” arguing that it is “unconstitutional to keep them in solitary confinement for more time than other prisoners.” The inmates “are the latest in a nationwide movement aimed at trying to equalize conditions for prisoners,” contending “that just because someone is slated to die doesn’t mean he or she should have worse treatment in the meantime.” Nine death row inmates sued the Florida Department of Corrections in July “saying a policy automatically putting them in solitary confinement no matter what their behavioral records is cruel and unusual punishment prohibited under the Eighth Amendment, and also violates the equal protection clause because inmates not on death row don’t receive the same treatment,” and lawsuits “also have been filed in recent years in Virginia, Arizona and Louisiana.”

SUSPENDED FOX NEWS HOST SUES HUFFINGTON POST REPORTER OVER LEWD-PHOTO ARTICLE. The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Steel, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) reports that suspended Fox News host Eric Bolling “initiated a \$50 million defamation lawsuit on Wednesday against the author of a HuffPost report that said” Bolling “had sent lewd photographs to three female colleagues.” According to the Times, the article, by Yashar Ali, “cited a dozen unidentified people who said that” Bolling “had ‘sent an unsolicited photo of male genitalia via text message to at least two colleagues at Fox Business and one colleague at Fox News.’” The Times adds that on Saturday, “a day after the article was published, Fox News said it had suspended” Bolling pending an investigation into the accusations. The network “said it had learned about the allegations following an inquiry from HuffPost.” Bolling “is seeking at least \$50 million in reputational, monetary and punitive damages and other costs, according to a summons filed in State Supreme Court in Manhattan.”

EX-TRUMP AIDES CONFIRM BIRTH OF “LOVE CHILD.” Under the headline “Ex-Trump Staffers Reveal Love Child After Campaign Trail Sex Scandal,” [Page Six](#) (8/9, Smith, 480K) reports, “The very first sex scandal of Donald Trump’s presidency has just resulted in the birth of a love child. Married former White House communications director Jason Miller has fathered a son with Trump transition adviser A.J. Delgado following a wild night out in Las Vegas” on “the night before Trump’s final debate against Hillary Clinton in late October. Miller confirmed the birth of their child on Wednesday...and said his wife had, astonishingly, accepted the news.”

OLSON: CONGRESS VIOLATES CONSTITUTION WITH PUERTO RICO OVERSIGHT BOARD. In a [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) op-ed, lawyer Theodore B. Olson writes that Congress’ 2016 Puerto Rico Oversight, Management and Economic Stability Act (PROMESA) violates the Constitution’s Appointments Clause by circumventing presidential authority to appoint federal officials in establishing the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico, which oversees the territory’s fiscal problems. Olson notes that Congress appoints six of the board’s seven members and concludes that the courts must intervene to stop what he terms legislative overreach.

WPOST: SESSIONS’ IDEOLOGY TRUMPS CRIME-FIGHTING CONCERNS. The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, 12.92M) editorializes that “in grappling with its worst epidemic of homicides in years, Chicago faces no more critical task than repairing frayed relations between its beleaguered police force and the communities it serves,” and now the Trump Administration, “more eager to advance its anti-illegal-immigration agenda than to combat violent crime, is throwing up obstacles that will make it more difficult for Chicago and other localities to get a grip on the problems they confront.” The Justice Department recently announced that “localities that refuse to cooperate with deportation agents are ineligible for a specific grant program for police departments.” Attorney General Sessions “justifies barring the federal grants to Chicago – thereby impeding its ability to buy crime-fighting gear such as police cars, SWAT equipment and radios – by falsely linking the Windy City’s homicide rate with its sanctuary policies.” According to the Post, Sessions’ demands “would undermine local law enforcement by driving a wedge between police and immigrant communities.”

WSJOURNAL: EMAILS SHOW BERKELEY STAFF SCARED OF STUDENT PROTESTERS. In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) writes that internal emails from the University of California at Berkeley show that staff are "deeply disturbed" by student protesters whose violent demonstrations in recent years have prompted the administration to request funding for a \$9,000 security door in the university chancellor's office. The Journal argues that the Chancellor and staff are right to be concerned – noting the particularly violent riots in February during a visit by blogger Milo Yiannopoulos – and concludes by lamenting the state of campuses when administrators are purchasing physical barriers to defend themselves from the student body.

WSJOURNAL: CUOMO-DE BLASIO METRO FEUD HURTING NEW YORKERS. In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) argues that the ongoing dispute between New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo and New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio over funding for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority offers an entertaining spectacle but hurts New Yorkers who experience widespread metro delays and face the possibility of tax increases. The Journal particularly highlights Mayor de Blasio's proposal to raise taxes on individuals earning more than \$500,000, which the Journal says would hurt taxpayers even more and may receive support from Cuomo despite his past campaigns against tax hikes.

NYTIMES CRITICIZES GOP ATTEMPT TO CHANGE CFPB LAWSUIT RULE. The [New York Times](#) (8/10, New York (NY), Times, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) editorializes, "The Trump administration is moving to deny Americans their day in court when they have been wronged." Both the Education Department and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services are working to reverse Obama-era regulations barring forced arbitration, and now congressional Republicans are "attacking a new rule, issued by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, that will let Americans bring class-action lawsuits against banks instead of being forced into arbitration. ... If Senate Republicans...vote to repeal this rule, they will join their House colleagues and the Trump administration in closing the courthouse door to vulnerable, victimized and defrauded Americans."

Editorial Wrap-Up:

NEW YORK TIMES. "Fear Of Missiles And Words." On its editorial page, the [New York Times](#) (8/9, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) writes that "on some emotional level, one might be able to see why Donald Trump threatened to unleash 'fire and fury' against North Korea," but he "is president of the United States, and if prudent, disciplined leadership was ever required, it is now." The Times argue that "rhetorically stomping his feet, as he did on Tuesday, is not just irresponsible; it is dangerous." Instead, "tougher sanctions, coupled with [Secretary of State] Tillerson's continued efforts at a diplomatic solution, are the best path to a peaceful end to this conflict. That is what Mr. Trump should also be focused on. Engaging in a war of words with North Korea only makes it harder for both sides to de-escalate."

"Closing The Courthouse Door." The [New York Times](#) (8/10, New York (NY), Times, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) editorializes, "The Trump administration is moving to deny Americans their day in court when they have been wronged." Both the Education Department and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services are working to reverse Obama-era regulations barring forced arbitration, and now congressional Republicans are "attacking a new rule, issued by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, that will let Americans bring class-action lawsuits against banks instead of being forced into arbitration. ... If Senate Republicans...vote to repeal this rule, they will join their House colleagues and the Trump administration in closing the courthouse door to vulnerable, victimized and defrauded Americans."

"Frustration Over A War And Its Crimes." A [New York Times](#) (8/9, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) editorial acknowledges the frustration expressed by Carla del Ponte, who quit "the United Nations panel investigating atrocities in Syria in disgust." Yet, the Times says, "the Security Council's inaction has not been for lack of trying," but rather "because Russia, often joined by China, has obstinately propped up President Bashar al-Assad of Syria, using its veto

eight times in the Council so far to block measures against him." While "deeply frustrating for victims of atrocities and for investigators," the Times argues, "international organizations and international justice are inherently dependent on the political will of those involved, and the Syrian conflict is an infernal tangle of political goals, ideologies and actors." Ultimately, the Times concludes, only a diplomatic solution can end "the carnage" and hold responsible parties, including Assad, accountable.

"Needed: Proposals To Fix New York's Crumbling Subways." The [New York Times](#) (8/9, Subscription Publication, 14.49M) editorializes, "Gov. Andrew Cuomo, Mayor Bill de Blasio and Albany lawmakers are at last talking about how to pay for vital improvements to the city's crumbling subways. ... At least New York politicians are publicly tossing around ideas," and de Blasio's proposed "millionaire's tax" is "an opening bid, flawed as it is. Now, Mr. Cuomo...and others need to step up."

WASHINGTON POST. "Trump Ignores His Own Commission's Advice On Opioids." The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, 12.92M) editorializes that at his briefing on the opioid crisis on Tuesday, "after an appropriate nod to prevention, which is indeed a potentially efficient means of stemming the epidemic," President Trump "launched an extended attack on his predecessor's record. ... Not only did this inject a discordantly partisan note into a subject that had heretofore brought Democrats and Republicans together, but also it was of dubious logic. For much if not most of" Barack Obama's presidency, "users obtained opioids through legal channels – starting with doctor prescriptions. At least Mr. Obama's administration sought to clamp down on that through tightened national prescribing guidelines late in his term."

"Ideology Trumps Crime Fighting At Sessions's Justice Department." The [Washington Post](#) (8/9, 12.92M) editorializes that "in grappling with its worst epidemic of homicides in years, Chicago faces no more critical task than repairing frayed relations between its beleaguered police force and the communities it serves," and now the Trump Administration, "more eager to advance its anti-illegal-immigration agenda than to combat violent crime, is throwing up obstacles that will make it more difficult for Chicago and other localities to get a grip on the problems they confront." The Justice Department recently announced that "localities that refuse to cooperate with deportation agents are ineligible for a specific grant program for police departments." Attorney General Sessions "justifies barring the federal grants to Chicago – thereby impeding its ability to buy crime-fighting gear such as police cars, SWAT equipment and radios – by falsely linking the Windy City's homicide rate with its sanctuary policies." According to the Post, Sessions' demands "would undermine local law enforcement by driving a wedge between police and immigrant communities."

"China And Russia Go Further In Squelching Internet Freedom." In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (8/9, 12.92M) writes that China recently created a new cybersecurity law "cracking down" further on free Internet access of foreign platforms by targeting popular software known as virtual private networks, or VPNs, that allow users to bypass the "great firewall" and that Chinese authorities have overlooked for years in an effort to attract foreign businesses. Noting that in Russia, Putin has also recently "signed legislation outlawing the use of VPNs," the Post concludes, "In both Russia and China, the impulse is the same: Rulers fear the free flow of information."

WALL STREET JOURNAL. "Trumpian Fury On North Korea." A [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) editorial hits back at criticisms of the President's remarks on North Korea, arguing that diplomacy works best when there is a credible threat to back it up.

"A Berkeley 'Escape Hatch.'" In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) writes that internal emails from the University of California at Berkeley show that staff are "deeply disturbed" by student protesters whose violent demonstrations in recent years have prompted the administration to request funding for a \$9,000 security door in the university chancellor's office. The Journal argues that the Chancellor and staff are right to be

concerned – noting the particularly violent riots in February during a visit by blogger Milo Yiannopoulos – and concludes by lamenting the state of campuses when administrators are purchasing physical barriers to defend themselves from the student body.

“New York’s Liberal Subway War.” In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (8/9, Subscription Publication, 6.99M) argues that the ongoing dispute between New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo and New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio over funding for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority offers an entertaining spectacle but hurts New Yorkers who experience widespread metro delays and face the possibility of tax increases. The Journal particularly highlights Mayor de Blasio’s proposal to raise taxes on individuals earning more than \$500,000, which the Journal says would hurt taxpayers even more and may receive support from Cuomo despite his past campaigns against tax hikes.

The Big Picture:

HEADLINES FROM TODAY’S FRONT PAGES.

Wall Street Journal:

[US Presses North Korea But Dials Back Rhetoric](#)
[US Can’t Get Breakout Economic Growth With Productivity This Low](#)
[Investors Question Oil Output In America’s Fastest-Growing Field](#)
[The New Copycats: How Facebook Squashes Competition From Startups](#)

New York Times:

[Deep Divisions Emerge In Trump Administration As North Korea Threatens War](#)
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[Democratic Fight In California Is A Warning For The National Party](#)
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[Ole Miss Edges Out Of Its Confederate Shadow, Gingerly](#)

Washington Post:

[Pre-dawn FBI Raid At Manafort Residence](#)
[In A White House Riven By Ideology, Kelly Plays Role Of Apolitical Mediator](#)
[Impulsiveness Or Savvy Instincts? Americans Split On Trump’s Rhetoric.](#)
[Personal Pain In Engaging With Former Neo-Nazi](#)
[A Year After Silver Spring Fire, Survivor Adjusts To A New Life](#)

Financial Times:

[North Korea Escalates Threat As Tillerson Seeks To Ease Tensions](#)
[Altice Lines Up \\$185bn Pitch For Cable Group Charter](#)
[Disney Takes On Netflix With Streaming Services](#)
[Telit’s Oozi Cats Dogged By Near-Namesake’s Fraud Indictment](#)

Washington Times:

[Tillerson, Mattis Back Up Trump’s Stark Warning To North Korea](#)
[Congressional Staffers Lament Need For Resources And Raises, But Not Transparency And Accountability](#)
[LGBT Groups Fund Predictions Of Economic Backlash To Bathroom Bills](#)
[Trump’s Hiring Freeze Falls Flat With Government Reformists](#)
[Change From Verizon Center To Capital One Arena In D.C. Comes With Promises Of Improvements](#)
[Death Row Inmates Sue For Equal Treatment, Call Solitary Confinement Cruel And Unusual](#)

Story Lineup From Last Night’s Network News:

ABC: North Korea Threats; North Korea Threats-US Military Options; Russia Meddling

Investigation-Manafort; Paris-Car Mowing Attack; Missouri-Police Shooter Arrested; Milwaukee-Home Explosion; Severe Weather-Hurricane Season; Healthcare-McCain Criticism; Google-Internal Memo Controversy; Sequoia National Park-Mountain Lion Encounter; Texas-Construction Accident; Health-Stroke Risk; CVS-Overcharge Lawsuit; Lottery Drawing.

CBS: North Korea Threats; North Korea Threats-US Military Options; North Korea Threats-International Reactions; North Korea Threats-Expert Comment; Russia Meddling Investigation-Manafort; Pittsburgh-Drug Raid; Severe Weather-Hurricane Franklin; Severe Weather-New Orleans; Health-Stroke Risk; Tiger Woods-Wreckless Driving; Dinosaur Fossil; Bruce Springsteen-New Show; Computer Password Tip.

NBC: North Korea Threats; North Korea Threats-US Military Options; WH-North Korea Threats; Russia Meddling Investigation-Manafort; Paris-Car Mowing Attack; Opioid Epidemic; Car Heat-Death; Severe Weather-Hurricane Season; Oprah-New Show; Bruce Springsteen-New Show; Dog Matching App.

Network TV At A Glance:

North Korea Threats – 23 minutes, 5 seconds

Russia Meddling Investigation-Manafort – 6 minutes, 50 seconds

Health-Stroke Risk – 2 minutes, 30 seconds

Paris-Car Mowing Attack – 2 minutes, 5 seconds

Severe Weather-Hurricane – 1 minute, 45 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: North Korea Threats; Russia Meddling Investigation-Manafort; Cuban Diplomats Expulsion.

CBS: North Korea Threats; Russia Meddling Investigation-Manafort; Pittsburgh-Drug Raid; Health-Stroke Risk;

FOX: North Korea Threats; Russian Spy Plane Fly-over.

NPR: North Korea Threats; Cuban Diplomats Expulsion; Montana-Wildfire; Severe Weather-Hurricane Franklin.

Last Laughs:

LATE NIGHT POLITICAL HUMOR.

Jimmy Kimmel: "Here's the theory. Maybe Kim Jong-Un is just trying to ruin Donald Trump's vacation."

Jimmy Kimmel: "[Secretary of State Rex] Tillerson, he said Trump was just speaking in a language Kim Jong-Un would understand. Was that Korean? I didn't think it was."

Jimmy Kimmel: "This problem with North Korea and the nukes is not an easy one to fix for anyone. President Clinton, President Bush, President Obama all tried different strategies and they didn't work. And so far, Trump's strategy of playing multiple rounds of golf and watching Fox & Friends is not working either."

Stephen Colbert: "This past weekend, the UN imposed harsh sanctions on North Korea to try to get them to curb their nuclear program. North Korea responded by threatening revenge on the US, so renowned deal artist, Donald Trump...saw their threat of apocalypse and raised them one Armageddon."

Stephen Colbert: "Look, North Korea, leave Guam out of this! They're a US territory. That means they don't participate in the elections! They didn't vote for Trump. Just like most of Americans."

James Corden: "It was announced today that the FBI conducted a raid on the home of Trump's former campaign manager, Paul Manafort. Yeah, so of course this afternoon, Trump fired the entire FBI."

Jimmy Fallon: "Last night, Kim Jong-Un actually threatened the US territory of Guam. Yeah. When he heard that, Trump said, 'Oh, my God, do I have any golf courses there?'"

Jimmy Fallon: "I saw that the 2018 Winter Olympics in South Korea are now just six months away. Hopefully."

Seth Meyers: "Following President Trump's threats of fire and fury against North Korea, Sen. John McCain has recommended that the President instead walk softly but carry a big stick, which incidentally is how Melania keeps away from him around the White House."

Seth Meyers: "Hey, man, when you respond to North Korea, you're not supposed to sound like North Korea. Obama didn't respond to Putin's hacking by riding shirtless on horseback, even though everyone would have loved that."

Seth Meyers: "Politico reported that inside the Administration, there was little initial support for [FBI Director Christopher] Wray. After talking extensively with [Chris] Christie, Trump decided to go with Wray without telling others on his staff. The most shocking thing about that story is the fact that Trump still talks to Chris Christie."

Conan O'Brien: "This study came out, a new study reveals one out of eight Americans is an alcoholic. However, after Trump's comments on North Korea yesterday, it's now seven out of eight Americans."

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Sender:	Bulletin Intelligence <HHS@BulletinIntelligence.com>
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From:	Bulletin Intelligence <HHS@BulletinIntelligence.com>
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[HHS News Briefing](#)

TO: THE SECRETARY AND SENIOR STAFF

DATE: FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2018 7:30 AM EDT

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Leading the News

Senate Passes \$1.3 Trillion Omnibus Budget Bill In Late Negotiations.

The [Washington Post](#) (3/22, Werner, Debonis, 15.96M) reports that early on Friday, Congress approved a "sweeping \$1.3 trillion spending bill" offering "enormous increases to military and domestic programs alike, as Republicans and Democrats joined to block most of President Trump's proposed budget cuts and place obstacles in the way of his immigration agenda." The House on Thursday passed the 2,232-page

bill "on a wide bipartisan vote," and "after a day of maneuvering...the Senate followed suit," passing the measure 65 to 32. The Post says, "For hours after House passage, the legislation stalled in the Senate" after Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY) espoused "opposition to the spending bill via Twitter while keeping his colleagues in suspense about whether he would slow-walk the process past 12:01 a.m." The Post adds that while the debate was vigorous, "the ultimate outcome was not in question: The legislation would pass, bringing budget increases to federal agencies large and small, from the National Institutes of Health to the National Park Service to the Election Assistance Commission." Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK) commented that the Trump Administration would have regretted cutting the NIH budget if another pandemic later arose.

[USA Today](#) (3/22, Collins, Shesgreen, 9.51M) reports the bill's passage prevents a federal government shutdown. President Trump has indicated he will support the measure. Democrats touted "the domestic funding gains" as being "particularly notable given that Democrats do not control Congress or the White House," while many Republicans cheered the military spending increases.

The [New York Times](#) (3/22, Kaplan, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) reports congressional approval of the bill was "swift," and the President "seemed to grudgingly endorse" it, although it "clearly rebuffs the Trump administration's efforts to sharply scale back the reach and scope of the federal government." Some Republicans also denounced the measure, with Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH) calling the budget deal "maybe the worst bill I've ever seen." Specifically, he pointed out that during the 2016 election constituents had expected legislation targeting sanctuary cities and Planned Parenthood, which the deal did not do. Neither does the bill address Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), to some legislators' chagrin.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/23, Peterson, Hughes, Subscription Publication, 6.8M) reports Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) commented that the bill is "legislation that neither side sees as perfect, but which contains a host of significant victories and important achievements on behalf of the American people." The Journal adds that among the bill's other provisions are steps to curb gun violence by strengthening the national background check system for purchasing firearms and ending what gun control advocates call a ban on federal

gun violence research.

Also reporting are the [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/22, Decker, 4.81M), the [Associated Press](#) (3/23, Mascaro, Fram), [The Hill](#) (3/23, Carney, 2.4M), and [Politico](#) (3/22, Everett, 2.92M).

Spending Bill Includes Increased Funding For NIH, Other Agencies.

The [New York Times](#) (3/22, Davis, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) reports that Congress rejected President's Trump's proposal for a \$7.5 billion cut to the National Institutes of Health. Instead, lawmakers are allocating a total of \$37 billion to NIH in the spending bill, which represents an increase of \$3 billion from 2017.

[NPR](#) (3/22, Kodjak, 2.7M) reports that the massive spending bill which the House passed does not include a measure to stabilize ACA marketplaces, but it "has lots of new money for medical research, addiction treatment and mental health care." The omnibus includes \$78 billion for HHS, which represents a \$10 billion increase compared to last year. It provides \$3.2 billion for mental healthcare, which is a 17-percent increase, and \$37 billion for the National Institutes of Health.

[U.S. News & World Report](#) (3/22, Levy, 2.29M) says that the bill provides almost \$4 billion to combat the opioid crisis. Of that amount, \$1 billion will go "to states and tribal groups for treatment and prevention and \$476 million to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for opioid overdose monitoring, an increase of \$350 million over the previous year," while \$500 million will go "to NIH for research on addiction support." The article adds that "Alzheimer's disease research funding will go up \$414 million, \$140 million more will go toward brain research, and the total spent on research for a universal flu vaccine will go up \$40 million, for a total of \$100 million."

[Nature](#) (3/22, Morello, 157K) reports that under this bill, almost "all US science agencies would see their budgets grow in 2018." The article says the \$37 billion allocated to NIH is "a historic high." For its part, the CDC "would receive \$8.3 billion, an increase of \$1.1 billion over the 2017 level." The National Science Foundation has been allocated "\$7.8 billion, \$295 million more than it received last year," while "NASA's budget would rise to \$20.1 billion, an increase of \$1.1 billion." One exception was the EPA. Congress recommended keeping the agency's funding at \$8.1 billion, and the article says this "may be a victory of sorts, given [President] Trump has proposed slashing EPA

funding by more than 30% in 2018, to \$5.7 billion.”

[GenomeWeb](#) (3/22) reports that the spending bill “includes increases for every NIH institute and center, and specifically earmarks \$1.8 billion for Alzheimer’s disease research, a \$414 million increase over FY2017; \$400 million for the BRAIN Initiative, a \$140 million increase over last year; and \$290 million for the All of Us precision medicine initiative, a \$60 million boost over the previous year.” The article says the measure also “provides \$5.1 billion to the US Food and Drug Administration – \$483 million more than FY2017 – and includes \$996 million in 21st Century Cures Act funding.”

[The Scientist](#) (3/22, Williams, 151K) and [Science Magazine](#) (3/22, Kaiser, 440K) also cover the story.

Spending Bill Authorizes CDC To Conduct Research On Gun Violence.

The [Washington Post](#) (3/22, Wan, 15.96M) reports the spending bill has “language that may open the door slightly to restoring federal funding for gun research.” The measure “clarifies that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention can indeed conduct research into gun violence,” something it has been unable to do for more than 20 years because of the Dickey Amendment which “states that no CDC funds ‘may be used to advocate or promote gun control.’” But the National Rifle Association insists nothing will change. A spokeswoman for the group “pointed out that the new wording doesn’t even cast Congress as the one doing the clarifying. Instead, it quotes Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar’s recent testimony that ‘the CDC has the authority to conduct research on the causes of gun violence.’”

[Reuters](#) (3/22, Becker) reports that the bill includes “grants to help schools prevent gun violence, improvements to background checks and an assurance that” the CDC “can conduct related research.” However, “the narrowly tailored action falls short of the type of comprehensive legislation gun control advocates and many Democrats say is needed to stop the shooting deaths of school children, concert-goers, church worshipers and others.” The article mentions that “Azar told Congress last month he believed the CDC still had the authority to research gun violence.”

Also covering the story are [The Atlantic](#) (3/22, Berman, 2.86M), [Congressional Quarterly](#) (3/22, Ruger, Subscription Publication), the [Dallas Morning News](#) (3/22, Cobler, 982K), [CNN](#) (3/22, Killough, Walsh,

80.58M), and [Vox](#) (3/22, Lopez, 1.81M).

Top GOP Lawmakers Say It Is Unnecessary To Allocate Funding Earmarked For Gun Violence Research. [The Hill](#) (3/22, Weixel, 2.4M) reports that on Thursday, Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO) and Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK) stated during "separate interviews they don't see the need to give federal research agencies like the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) additional money meant to study the causes of gun violence." Cole said, "I think they need to make that decision themselves. We appropriate money for research, we don't dictate what the lines of research necessarily need to be." The article says the spending bill "includes nearly \$649 million for various 'Injury Prevention and Control activities' within the CDC's Office of Public Health Scientific Services." For his part, Blunt stated, "We've increased the NIH research budget by 23 percent in three years. If they want to do gun research, they have plenty of money to do it."

Spending Bill Provides Increased Funding For Abstinence-Only Education. [The Hill](#) (3/22, Hellmann, 2.4M) reports that the spending bill provides \$10 million more in funding for abstinence-only education. The article says overall, "the Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (SRAE) grant program would receive a 67 percent increase in funding, bringing it up to \$25 million." The piece adds that if the bill becomes law, "it would bring federal spending on abstinence-only programs to \$100 million a year, the highest level for these types of programs since the George W. Bush administration."


Funding For Opioid Crisis Considered Insufficient. German Lopez writes in a [Vox](#) (3/22, 1.81M) piece that the spending bill "adds \$3.3 billion to address the opioid and mental health crisis in fiscal year 2018, with a focus on public health efforts," but some contend it is insufficient. One expert said even the \$6 billion which Congress initially proposed would not be enough, given that the annual budget for diseases such as HIV is \$32 billion. Lopez says, "Any increase is, of course, welcome," although "when dealing with one of the worst public health crises in history, Congress will have to go really big – and it's just not there yet."

Collins, Alexander Health Proposal Omitted From Spending Bill. The [Bangor \(ME\) Daily News](#) (3/22, 222K) reports that omitted from the spending bill was a healthcare measure sought by Republican Sens. Susan Collins of Maine and Lamar Alexander of Tennessee. The measure

"would have allowed states to establish high-risk pools to help cover costly insurance claims, while restoring certain payments to insurers under the Affordable Care Act."

The Secretary in the News

HHS Secretary Alex Azar Interviewed On Opioid Crisis Strategy.

[Fox News' Special Report](#)  [Video](#) (3/22, 1.95M) reports on Bret Baier's interview of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar about the Trump Administration's strategy to address the opioid crisis. Azar said, "the President laid out a historic vision, funding, and first-ever benchmarks about what the goals for success are," explaining that the plan includes prevention, stopping the "illicit supply of these illegal opioids," and "effective treatment for individuals who are trapped in the cycle of addiction." He calls the statistics on the epidemic "shocking," noting that "116 Americans die every day as a result of opioid overdose. Every day. Every single day." Secretary Azar also addresses funding for the department, explaining that "we have an agreement that allocates \$6 billion over two years of funding for grants, for prevention, and for law enforcement" related to the opioid epidemic, and adding that the department's funding "prioritized organizations like the National Institute of Health ... and then also the CDC."

Kellyanne Conway Advises Millennials To Eat More Ice Cream, Avoid Doing Drugs.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (3/22, Justice, 381K) reports Kellyanne Conway has advised millennials to eat more ice cream and not to do drugs. At the White House "Generation Next" forum, Conway said, "My short advice is, as somebody double your age, eat the ice cream, have the french fry, don't buy the street drug. Believe me, it all works out." The statement preceded a "panel discussion with Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar and Department of Justice Director of Public Affairs Sarah Isgur Flores on the drug epidemic and free speech issues on college campuses."

Trump Administration's Price Transparency Push Mobilizes Healthcare Industry.

[Congressional Quarterly](#) (3/23, Clason, Subscription Publication) reports that a push for price transparency is putting the healthcare industry “on alert” as “hospitals, insurers and pharmacy benefit managers work to counter recent questions raised by lawmakers and Trump administration officials.” Lawmakers so far primarily have targeted drug manufacturers, insurers, and pharmacy benefit managers, but “officials are also taking aim at providers that either can’t or won’t provide patients with the true cost of a medical service.” President Trump and Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar “plan to unveil a drug pricing proposal in the coming weeks, which could contain a measure aimed at including patients in prescription drug rebates given to insurers and pharmacy benefit managers,” CQ reports, noting that Azar has “delivered stern remarks to multiple industry groups” including the Federation of American Hospitals. Furthermore, CQ says, “Azar’s warnings were echoed by Food and Drug Administration Commissioner Scott Gottlieb in a speech to America’s Health Insurance Plans.”

Funding For EHRs In Omnibus Shows Congress “Understands Importance Of Interoperability.”

[Healthcare IT News](#) (3/22, Morse, 3K) reports that the spending bill shows Congress “understands the importance of interoperability.” It “includes a considerable amount of funding for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to begin the transition to Cerner for its EHR when that contract goes through.” The article mentions that HHS Secretary Alex Azar “has been promoting innovation and interoperability and ways his department will seek to improve both.” The piece adds that the spending bill “authorizes \$60 million provided by the 21st Century Cures Act.”

Texas AG Asks Feds To Overturn Obama-Era Funding Cut.

The [Austin \(TX\) American Statesman](#) (3/22, Lindell, Subscription Publication, 424K) reports that Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton on Thursday asked federal officials to reinstate family planning money that was cut off when Texas removed Planned Parenthood from a Medicaid-funded health program in 2012. In a letter sent Thursday to HHS Secretary Alex Azar, Paxton wrote, “[The Obama] administration routinely embraced opportunities to attack Texans for pursuing a

culture of life in our laws and policies. Despite those attempts to bully Texas into abandoning these principles, Texas has continued to protect the rights of the unborn.”

Most Americans Believe Drug Companies Have More Influence In Washington Than NRA, Poll Finds.

[USA Today](#) (3/23, Groppe, 9.51M) reports that according to a poll released Friday by the Kaiser Family Foundation, “52% of those surveyed this month said the NRA has too much influence in Washington,” while “72% said the same thing of drugmakers.” The article says the concern over drug prices is not partisan, because eight in 10 Americans “think drug costs are unreasonable,” and “65% of Democrats and 74% of Republicans said drug companies’ clout is too high.” USA Today reports that while HHS Secretary Alex Azar said tackling the issue is his top priority, only four in 10 respondents expressed confidence in President Trump’s Administration to deliver on his campaign promise of lowering drug prices. The article notes that “Americans spend \$1,443 on prescription drugs per person compared to an average of \$749 in other wealthy countries, according to a recent analysis published by the Journal of the American Medical Association.”

On its website, [USA Today](#) (3/23, 9.51M) posts a video clip of past remarks by President Trump highlighting the difference American customers pay for medicines compared to other countries.

Commentary: Azar Warns About Of Marijuana Laced With Fentanyl.

Nick Wing writes for the [Huffington Post](#) (3/22, 4.3M) that at a White House event with millennial leaders on Thursday, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar advised young people “not to let their guard down about the dangers of marijuana, because potentially lethal synthetic opioids could be lurking in their weed.” When asked what the Administration was doing to communicate that prescription drugs are as dangerous as marijuana, Azar said, “These are very sophisticated operators, and they are lacing other illegal drugs with fentanyl to get you hooked on opioids and bring you into their system,” adding, “Marijuana laced with fentanyl, all kinds of other products laced with fentanyl.” Wing writes, however, that “there’s little in the way of reliable evidence to suggest that dealers are lacing marijuana with potent

opioids in order to get people addicted, as Azar claims.”

CMS Innovation Center Experiencing Exodus Of Top Officials.

[Politico](#) (3/22, Pittman, 2.92M) reports that there has been a “recent exodus of top officials at the CMS Innovation Center,” noting that under the Trump Administration, “the office has done little over the past year to put into action new ideas for improving care and tackling health care costs.” Politico adds, “But as Alex Azar settles into his new job, experts closely watching the innovation center say the new HHS secretary could have carte blanche to leverage the office’s powers to experiment with long-sought conservative reforms, ranging from physician payment to Medicare vouchers.” HHS spokeswoman Caitlin Oakley said that Azar would like to “harness the power of Medicare to drive innovation” and believes CMMI is important to that objective. CMS Administrator Seema Verma added that CMMI is “an important tool for improving America’s health care system” and moving “towards a system that pays for quality and value.”

HHS Official Who Approved Price’s Charter Flights Resigns.

[Politico](#) (3/22, Diamond, 2.92M) reports on the resignation of HHS Assistant Secretary of Administration John Bardis, “who signed off on ex-Secretary Tom Price’s charter jet flights,” which cost more than \$400,000. His office is the subject of an inspector general’s office probe “about whether Price’s use of charter-jet flights for routine domestic travel” complied with federal regulations. Deputy Secretary Eric Hargan, in a statement, said “HHS has benefited greatly from his dedicated work over the past year.” Bardis said in a statement, “I am deeply grateful to President Trump, Secretary Azar, Secretary Price, and Deputy Secretary Hargan for the opportunity to work on the American people’s behalf at HHS.” Politico reports Bardis’ deputy, “Jon Cordova, was recently allowed to return to HHS after being investigated for spreading conspiracy theories on social media.”

[Modern Healthcare](#) (3/22, Aguilar, Subscription Publication, 231K) also reports.

HHS in the News

CMS' Verma Says Trump Administration Must "Follow The Law" On Medicaid.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (3/22, Leonard, 381K) reports Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services administrator Seema Verma confirmed Thursday that the Administration was bound to follow the law in its handling of state applications to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act. She said, "If a state files a state plan amendment, by law there is a certain period of time that we have to respond to that, and those are set in law." She also addressed the Administration's approval of work requirements, saying, "Medicaid needs to be the safety net for that population that really has no other place to turn," adding, "I think there has been a lot of concern about putting able-bodied adults into that program and what it does to the actual Medicaid program."

CMS' Verma Says She'll Help Counties That Risk Having No ACA Insurers.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (3/22, Leonard, 381K) reports Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Administrator Seema Verma "said Thursday that she would work with states that have counties where no insurer will sell Obamacare coverage." The article quotes Verma as saying, "I made a lot of calls to insurance commissioners and said, 'Let me know what I can do to help.'" She added, "We kind of understood what other states were doing to try to attract insurers and share best practices with them informally." The Examiner reports "it isn't clear yet if any counties will be without insurers next year."

CMS' Verma Declines To Address Questions About Potential Limits On ACA "Silver Loading."

The [Washington Examiner](#) (3/22, Leonard, 381K) reports that when asked about "rumors that had circulated" that the Trump Administration "plans to block states from 'silver loading' their coverage options so that premiums of Obamacare plans do not rise significantly," CMS Administrator Seema Verma declined to comment. The Examiner quotes Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar as saying Wednesday, "I'm not aware of that. I can't tell you any discussions, deliberations around that issue aren't going on, it just hasn't come to me."

CMS Mulling How To Exempt More Consumers From ACA's Individual Mandate Penalty.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (3/22, Leonard, 381K) reports that on Thursday, CMS Administrator Seema Verma said "the Trump administration is considering ways to ease the burden of people who go uninsured this year and would face Obamacare's penalty." Verma is quoted as saying, "We are thinking about that. ... I can't comment on the timeline but that is something that we are giving a lot of consideration to."

Physicians Request Overhaul Of Some Medicare Billing Codes.

[Modern Healthcare](#) (3/22, Dickson, Subscription Publication, 231K) reports physicians told the CMS Wednesday on a conference call that "lowering documentation standards for a commonly used set of billing codes would lead to better quality of care." The physicians noted that the last update to the "evaluation and management visit codes" occurred more than 20 years ago, and the claims "were developed with a paper-based system in mind." Marge Watchorn, deputy director of CMS' Division of Practitioner Services, responded, "The agency has heard repeatedly over the years that these documentation guidelines are potentially outdated and need to be revised."

Bipartisan Lawmakers Ask CMS' Verma About Drug Misclassifications Under Medicaid.

[STAT Plus](#) (3/22, Swetlitz, Subscription Publication, 45K) reports a group of ten bipartisan lawmakers sent a letter to CMS Administrator Seema Verma saying that they were "'deeply concerned' about her agency's oversight of the way Medicaid pays for drugs." The letter focuses on the Medicaid Drug Rebate Program and how drugs are classified – or misclassified. A 2017 report from the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services found that 885 drugs may have been misclassified. The letter asked whether the agency "needs more legal powers to hold drug companies accountable."

Biden Criticizes EHR Revamp From CMS For Lacking Path To

Implementation.

[Healthcare Dive](#) (3/22, Bryant) reports former Vice President Joe Biden wrote in *Fortune* that CMS' MyHealthEData Initiative that was unveiled earlier this month lacks specific actions to implement the plan. The plan "aims to increase interoperability among EHRs and PHRs and give patients greater control of their health records, including a upgraded personal health record used by Medicare beneficiaries known as Blue Button 2.0." During HIMSS18 when the plan was released, CMS Administrator Seema Verma said, "Let me be crystal clear, the days of finding creative ways to trap patients in your system must end," adding, "It's not acceptable to limit patient records or prevent them and their doctor for seeing their complete history outside of a particular healthcare system."

Proposed CMS Rule Would Allow Some States To Skirt Medicaid Network Adequacy Requirement.

[Modern Healthcare](#) (3/22, Dickson, Subscription Publication, 231K) reports "CMS is letting some states off the hook when it comes to complying with an Obama-era rule that's meant to ensure Medicaid beneficiaries have adequate access to care." Three years ago, the agency "finalized a rule requiring states to assess how easy it is for fee-for-service Medicaid beneficiaries to receive primary care; pre- and post-natal obstetric services; and specialty and behavioral health care, among other services." But on Thursday, it "issued a proposed rule that would exempt states if the majority of their Medicaid population received services through managed-care plans." CMS Administrator Seema Verma said, "These new policies do not mean that we aren't interested in beneficiary access but are intended to relieve unnecessary regulatory burden on states, avoid increasing administrative costs for taxpayers, and refocus time and resources on improving the health outcomes of Medicaid beneficiaries."

HHS Urged To Confirm Permanent Indian Health Service Director Quickly.

Vinton Hawley, chairman of the National Indian Health Board and chairman of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, writes in [The Hill](#) (3/22, 2.4M) that the "urgency to confirm a qualified, competent American

Indian or Alaska Native Director of the Indian Health Service (IHS) is overdue.” Hawley says that “despite numerous reports by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General, IHS-operated facilities continue to suffer.” He says that the IHS needs “a leader that will finally bring change to this dangerous culture at IHS, and save the lives of our people.”

Surgeon General Discusses Opioid Epidemic, Gun Control.

[MLive \(MI\)](#) (3/22, Slagter, 917K) reports US General Jerome Adams focused on creating “better health through better partnerships” to tackle gun violence and the opioid crisis during a visit to the University of Michigan on Thursday. Adams said of the root causes for the opioid epidemic that “there is plenty of blame to go around,” adding, “It was doctors over-prescribing, it was pharmaceutical companies telling us that they’re safe, it’s a culture out there (saying) that a pill can fix everything,” and so there isn’t one single entity that can solve the crisis. On gun violence, “Adams argued that because the country is so large and vast, all politics and health issues should be addressed at the local level,” including gun control policy.

Sidelined HHS Deputy CISO Says Security Center “Decimated” By Agency.

[Healthcare IT News](#) (3/22, Davis, 3K) reports the Department of Health and Human Services’ “role in leading and facilitating security efforts in healthcare and other industries is more uncertain than ever” following the resignation of HHS Chief Information security officer Christopher Wlaschin. The HHS Healthcare Cybersecurity Communications and Integration Center “has already been at the center of ongoing questions since Sept. 6, 2017, when HHS Deputy CISO Leo Scanlon and HCCIC Director Maggie Amato were abruptly reassigned for what they said was an investigation into allegations for ‘ethics violations,’” while the House Energy and Commerce Committee is probing whether HHS “penalized Scanlon and Amato for whistleblowing,” the article says. Amato resigned and Scanlon has been on administrative leave for more than 150 days, Healthcare IT News reports, quoting Scanlon as saying, “At the moment, there is no HCICC. It’s been completely decimated.”

FDA Commissioner Aiming To Encourage More Innovation In Pharmaceutical Industry.

[The Economist](#) (3/22, 2.36M) reports the Food and Drug Administration, under the leadership of Scott Gottlieb, "is providing more guidance to industry" rather than regulating. The article reports that Gottlieb is aiming to increase innovation by providing more incentives for pharmaceutical companies to do the R&D necessary to bring new drugs to market.

FDA Commissioner Striking A Better Balance Between Confidence And Efficiency.

[The Economist](#) (3/22, 2.36M) reports that medical regulators have to strike a balance between increasing "confidence in drugs and device" and imposing "too great a burden on firms." The article reports that FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb "has spent his first year in office tilting the balance away from rulemaking and towards efficiency."

Opinion: FDA's Push To Regulate Nicotine May Be Disingenuous.

David Lazarus writes in a column for the [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/23, 4.81M) opining over why the "most regulation-hating of Republican administrations" would "seek to impose new rules on an industry that is one of the Republican Party's most generous donors," highlighting skepticism among anti-smoking advocates. FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb last week unveiled an "advance notice of proposed rulemaking" to "explore a product standard to lower nicotine in cigarettes to minimally or non-addictive levels," but Lazarus points out they were not met with any litigation from the tobacco industry. He says that the tobacco industry is "forestalling litigation on nicotine limits as long as the FDA keeps its distance from vaping," and notes that Gottlieb "used to sit on the board of Kure, a North Carolina vaping company."

Prominent HIV/AIDS Researcher Chosen To Lead CDC.

[TIME](#) (3/22, Sifferlin, 18.9M) reports Dr. Robert Redfield, a prominent HIV/AIDS researcher, has been selected to lead the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The article notes that the choice of Redfield has sparked controversy, with some praising his work and others criticizing

some of his past conduct.

[The Atlantic](#) (3/22, Yong, 2.86M) reports Anthony Fauci, the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said, "Bob Redfield is a talented and committed physician/scientist who has steadfastly devoted the past three decades to the study and care of HIV-infected individuals. He is highly regarded." On the other hand, Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA) has questioned the choice of Redfield citing his past advocacy for mandatory HIV testing for military personnel. Also covering the story are [Vox](#) (3/22, Belluz, 1.81M) and the [Atlanta Business Chronicle](#) (3/22, Hensley, Subscription Publication, 705K).

Opinion. In an editorial, the [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) (3/21, 1.18M) asserts, "The world depends on the CDC to track, contain and prevent infectious diseases." The CDC's "next leader faces a tough challenge: fighting emerging diseases such as Zika, fending off budget cuts and rebuilding trust with staff after" former director Brenda "Fitzgerald's rocky tenure." The Star Tribune concludes, "The last thing the CDC needed is to have one scandal-plagued director replaced with someone whose checkered career may put it at risk of another leadership implosion."

New TB Cases Decreased To Record Low In US In 2017, CDC Says.

The [Huffington Post](#) (3/22, Weber, 4.3M) reports, "The number of tuberculosis cases is at its lowest point since the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention began reporting it in 1953." This decline, however, "is [far from enough](#) to eliminate the treatable and curable disease in the US during this century, the agency stressed" in an article published in the CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. Dr. Philip LoBue, the director of the CDC's Division of Tuberculosis Elimination, said, "With better diagnostic tests, shorter treatments, and new guidelines to assist physicians in testing, the United States has a greater opportunity than ever before to eliminate TB in this country." The Post also mentions that "the federal omnibus spending deal expected to pass this week contains...language from Congress asking the Department of Health and Human Services to prioritize the 2016 national action plan for combatting multidrug-resistant TB," but it does not "include extra funding for CDC efforts against TB."

[Science Speaks](#) (3/22, Barton) reports that two years ago, the

agency reported the first increase in new cases in over 20 years.

Brazil To Launch Nationwide Yellow Fever Vaccination Campaign As Outbreak Continues.

[Fortune](#) (3/22, Donnelly, 4.04M) reports the Brazilian government is leading a national vaccination campaign in hopes of preventing a yellow fever epidemic as the country already grapples with outbreaks. So far, nearly 300 people have been killed in the outbreak, and the government is working to vaccinate 78 million people. Some worry the outbreak "could be the first full-blown urban epidemic since 1942 in Brazil," although the virus has not "impacted the country's major cities yet." The article adds that Dr. Martin Cetron, director of the CDC's Division of Global Migration and Quarantine, announced Friday that in light of the outbreak, the agency is "encourag[ing] travelers to take the extra time and extra steps in order to be vaccinated."

OSU Opioid Innovation Fund Awards Eight Research Projects.

The [Columbus \(OH\) Dispatch](#) (3/22, Gilchrist, 428K) reports that on Thursday, Ohio State University "announced eight winning research proposals to be awarded about \$491,000 from its Opioid Innovation Fund." Dr. Francis Collins, director of the National Institutes of Health, was on hand for the awards, telling attendees, "Opioid abuse leads to a rewiring of the brain. ... The idea that individuals that have fallen into addiction, most of whom started with prescription drugs, could simply decide through their willpower to stop...is simply not realistic."

NIH Awards \$26.3 Billion In Research Grants Last Year.

The [Business Journals](#) (3/22, Jeffrey, 577K) reports the National Institutes of Health disbursed \$26.3 billion in research grants to US researchers in 2017. The article features numerous infographics explaining how NIH spending has changed over the years and how NIH funding is distributed across the US.

Researchers Conclude Tiny Skeleton Belonged To A Human Girl Who Died Shortly After Birth From Genetic Defects.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/22, Healy, 4.81M) reports in "Science Now" researchers have discovered that a small 6-inch skeleton discovered 14

years ago in northern Chile is that of a human female who likely died shortly after birth as a result of multiple genetic mutations. The [findings](#) were published in the journal Genome Research. Garry Nolan, the director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute's Proteomics Center for Systems Immunology at Stanford University and one of the study's authors, said that the number of genetic mutations affecting bone structure and growth was "well beyond what you'd expect by chance."

Age-Related Loss Of Endurance May Be Reversed In Mice Through Stimulation Of New Blood Vessel Growth, Study Suggests.

[Science Blog](#) (3/22) reports MIT researchers have found that the loss of physical endurance with age can be reversed in mice "by treating them with a compound that promotes new blood vessel growth." In their [study](#), published in the journal Cell, they "found that the compound, which re-activates longevity-linked proteins called sirtuins, promotes the growth of blood vessels and muscle, boosting the endurance of elderly mice by up to 80 percent." Vittorio Sartorelli, a principal investigator at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases who was not involved in the study, called the research "elegant and compelling," adding that "it will be of interest and of clinical relevance to evaluate the effect of" the injected compound called "NMN and hydrogen sulfide on the vascularization of other organs such as the heart and brain, which are often damaged by acutely or chronically reduced blood flow." The research was funded in part by the National Institutes of Health.

Hurricane Harvey's Public Health Implications May Be Greater Than Residents Know.

The [AP](#) (3/22) reports that more than a half-year after floodwaters swamped Houston, "questions about the long-term consequences for human health remain unanswered." The AP says "Benzene, vinyl chloride, butadiene and other known human carcinogens were among the dozens of tons of industrial toxins released into surrounding neighborhoods and waterways following Harvey's torrential rains." Dr. Nicole Lurie, who oversaw federal public health responses to the Superstorm Sandy and Deepwater Horizon disasters while at the U.S.

Department of Health and Human Services, is quoted saying, “People are left in a state of limbo of not knowing if they were exposed or not — or if they were, what the implications are for their health.”

Health Reform

Murray Prevents ACA Stabilization Bill From Being Added To Omnibus, Citing Objections To Abortion Language.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (3/22, King, 381K) reports that on Thursday, Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA) “blocked Republicans from adding an amendment to the massive spending bill that would fund Obamacare insurer payments, because of language restricting federal money for abortions.” The article says Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME) sought “unanimous consent to add the provision to the spending bill,” but Murray objected. Murray said lawmakers from both sides of the aisle had already reached a deal to shore up ACA marketplaces, but GOP senators decided “to surprise Democrats with a new, last-minute proposal that included poison pills that Republicans knew Democrats would never agree to.”

Collins Insists McConnell Kept His Promise To Back ACA Stabilization Bill.

[The Hill](#) (3/22, Sullivan, 2.4M) reports that on Thursday, Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME) said Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) “has ‘kept his commitment completely’ to support ObamaCare fixes she championed.” The article says Collins was rebutting “criticism she has received from Democrats that she should not have voted for the tax-reform bill in December in hopes of later passing her measure aimed at lowering ObamaCare premiums.” The piece mentions that legislation to shore up ACA marketplaces seems dead after being “left out of a must-pass government funding bill this week, in large part due to Democratic objections to applying abortion restrictions to new ObamaCare funds.”

Cornyn Says Senate Will Vote On ACA Stabilization Legislation.

[The Hill](#) (3/22, Sullivan, 2.4M) reports that on Thursday, Senate Majority Whip John Cornyn (R-TX) said “‘there will be a vote’ on a GOP bill to lower ObamaCare premiums.” But he did not explain “whether

the vote would come as an amendment to the must-pass government funding bill or as a standalone measure.”

Washington State To Fine Centene \$100,000 For Failing To Address Physician Shortage.

[Bloomberg News](#) (3/22, Tracer, 3.41M) reports Centene Corp. has yet to address “problems in Washington that led the state to briefly bar the health insurer from selling Obamacare plans, the insurance regulator there said Thursday.” Consequently, the state “will fine Centene’s Coordinated Care unit \$100,000 for not complying with a December agreement to boost coverage of physicians such as anesthesiologists, Steve Valandra, deputy commissioner for public affairs at the state’s Office of the Insurance Commissioner, said.” The article says this is “a setback” for Centene, and mentions that CEO Michael Neidorff “has used many of the strategies developed in its Medicaid business as Centene expands its Obamacare offerings, including limiting where its members can get care to hospitals and signing up doctors willing to accept lower reimbursement rates.”

AARP Warns Proposal To Extend Duration Of Short-Term Plans Would Raise ACA Premiums For Seniors By About \$2K.

On its website, [CNBC](#) (3/22, O'Brien, 3.71M) reports, “A federal proposal to expand short-term health plans could mean older Americans with insurance through the Affordable Care Act will pay an average of \$2,000 more in 2019 premiums, according to the AARP.” The article says the proposed rule, which was issued by several federal agencies last month, would increase the term of these plans from three months to 364 days. Although “federal officials say the intention is to provide more affordable coverage options, critics say the move – coupled with the recent elimination of a penalty for non-coverage starting in 2019 – could drive even more young and healthy consumers away from the ACA marketplace.”

Commentary Considers Health Reform.

Several outlets offer opinions on health reform.

Paige Winfield Cunningham writes in the [Washington Post](#) (3/22, 15.96M) “The Health 202” blog that an “intense battle over abortion

funding...nearly derailed the Affordable Care Act eight years ago," and now, a similar "fight – almost to a T – has sent legislation to lower its health-plan premiums down in flames." She adds that the spending bill "was, politically speaking, probably the last chance this year for Congress to try to help stabilize the Obamacare marketplaces, where around 10 million people buy coverage that has grown increasingly unaffordable."

Contributor Bruce Japsen writes in a [Forbes](#) (3/22, 10.07M) piece that Congress failed to include legislation which aims to stabilize ACA marketplaces in the \$1.3 trillion spending bill. Japsen says "health insurance companies were quick to predict future rate hikes of at least 10% – and that's not just for those with subsidized coverage."

Jonathan Bernstein writes in a [Bloomberg View](#) (3/22, 3.41M) column that on Wednesday, Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) unveiled new legislation which "policy guru Charles Gaba calls 'ACA 2.0.'" Bernstein says that according to Gaba, this is "more than just patching up Obamacare to make up for the damage done by Congress, states and design flaws in the original bill. It's an upgraded version of the Affordable Care Act," although "it's nowhere close to the various single-payer or 'Medicare for all' proposals that liberals have been spending a lot of time talking about over the last two years."

Dr. Arthur "Tim" Garson, Jr., director of the Texas Medical Center Health Policy Institute in Houston, past president of the American College of Cardiology and past Provost of the University of Virginia, writes in an op-ed for [The Hill](#) (3/22, 2.4M) that while the ACA's individual mandate "was a blunt tool," it "was effective in achieving its goal of motivating people to sign up for health insurance." Now that it has been repealed, and "with health insurance costs soaring...we'll almost certainly see the number of uninsured people in this country increase. And that means hospital emergency departments are likely to become even more overcrowded." Garson says Congress must address this issue.

In a [Vox](#) (3/22, 1.81M) piece, Dylan Scott writes, "In a remarkable twist of karma, health care could defeat Republicans at the polls this November." Scott says that eight years ago, voters' opposition to the ACA "helped sweep the GOP into power eight years ago." However, "after they spent the last year failing to repeal it while the Trump

administration waged a quiet administrative war against the law, Republicans in Congress are facing the very real possibility that health care could animate the backlash that could force them out of power next year.”

Iowa state Rep. John Landon (R-Ankeny) writes in a [Des Moines \(IA\) Register](#) (3/22, 281K) op-ed that he recently “proposed and floor managed an amendment to Senate File 2349 that was adopted and is being considered by the Iowa Senate.” Landon explains that the “amendment will authorize the Iowa Farm Bureau to offer their members a health benefit plan that is not Affordable Care Act compliant.” According to Landon, his “amendment will bring relief to thousands of Iowans who have left the individual health insurance market.”

Opioid News

House Continues Consideration Of Opioid Legislation.

[Congressional Quarterly](#) (3/22, Raman, Siddons, Subscription Publication) reports the House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee “resumed consideration of 25 bills in the final day of a two-day hearing on public health and prevention efforts in combating the opioid crisis.” Much of the questioning centered on addiction stigma and patient privacy. CQ reports Stacy Bohlen, CEO of the National Indian Health Board, testified that if funds were to be allocated directly to tribes rather than through the Indian Health Service, they would be effectively utilized.

GOP Senators Want To Tighten Mandatory Minimum Sentencing For Fentanyl.

[The Hill](#) (3/22, Roubein, 2.4M) reports a bill backed by a group of Republicans introduced Thursday “would reduce the amount of fentanyl required for mandatory minimum sentences to apply.” Fentanyl is “as much a weapon of mass destruction as it is a drug,” Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR) said at a Thursday press conference, explaining how less than 40 grams of fentanyl could kill thousands of people. The Hill says mandatory minimums have “received push back from some criminal justice advocates who say the laws are outdated.”

Opioid Overdose Deaths Higher Than CDC Estimates, Study Finds.

[NPR](#) (3/22, 2.7M) reports the US is “undercounting opioid-related overdoses by 20 to 35 percent, according to a study published in February in the journal *Addiction*.” NPR reports that data from death certificates “move from coroners and medical examiners to states and eventually the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,” which reports more than 42,000 people died from opioid-related overdoses in 2016; but “an analysis of overdoses that weren’t linked to specific drugs” puts the number of opioid overdose deaths “closer to 50,000.”

New York Eases Access To Detox Services.

The [Albany \(NY\) Times Union](#) (3/22, Bump, 393K) reports the New York Department of Health and the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) are providing hospitals with “a temporary waiver expanding the detox services they can provide.” The article says hospitals could previously “only set aside a maximum of five beds for detox, and could not have more than 10 percent of patients receiving detox services without having a specific license from OASAS.” The waiver “will expire at the end of the year, when both agencies will evaluate the need for an extension,” the Times-Union reports.

Louisiana House Advances Stricter Penalties For Carfentanil, Fentanyl Possession.

The [New Orleans Times-Picayune](#) (3/22, Clark, 654K) reports a Louisiana state House committee approved an amendment Tuesday that “will classify carfentanil, a substance 100 times more potent than fentanyl, as a schedule II drug under Louisiana’s controlled substances law.” The Times-Picayune reports the bill “also proposes that the manufacturing, possession, distribution, and possession with intent to distribute fentanyl and its analogues would carry criminal penalties for schedule II-controlled substances.”

Indiana Governor Signs Opioid Bills.

The [AP](#) (3/22) reports Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb (R) has signed four opioid bills. The legislation “will increase the number of opioid treatment locations, jack up criminal penalties for drug dealers and expand the

system that monitors opioid prescriptions,” while another measure “will improve data collected from local coroners on overdose deaths,” the AP reports.

Tennessee AG Challenges State Prosecutors’ Authority To Sue Opioid Companies.

The [Knoxville \(TN\) News Sentinel](#) (3/22, Satterfield, 289K) reports that Tennessee Attorney General Herbert Slatery III “is challenging the legal authority of 14 state district attorneys general to sue Big Pharma and its partners in the opiate supply chain and insisting they had no right to engage a private law firm.” The prosecutors representing 47 counties “contend Slatery sat idly by as the opioid epidemic decimated their communities,” the article says.

Editorial: Trump Distracts From The Smart Aspects Of His Opioid Plan.

In an editorial, the [Dallas Morning News](#) (3/22, 982K) says that President Trump “took welcome strides” toward combating the opioid crisis, but his “stark language” has “grabbed enormous attention this week for again calling for the use of the death penalty for especially culpable drug dealers.” The editorial argues that “fortunately, there is much in Trump’s plan that, once married to action in Congress, could help address this public health emergency. That’s where the focus should remain.”

Healthcare News

Healthcare Companies Turning To Pharmaceutical Executives As Industry Changes.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/22, Minaya, Subscription Publication, 6.8M) reports healthcare companies are hiring executives from pharmaceutical companies as the two industries increasingly converge. The Journal reports that healthcare companies are seeking pharmaceutical executives with experience navigating an industry undergoing consolidation. The article highlights several examples such as UnitedHealth’s selection of former GSK CEO Andrew Witty as the new CEO of United’s Optum unit.

Idaho House Votes Against Motion To Consider Bill That Would Provide Family Planning Services For Low-Income Women.

The [Idaho Press Tribune](#) (3/22, Pfannenstiel) reports that on Thursday, Idaho's House voted against a motion "to consider a bill funding family planning services for low-income women, marking another stalemate in legislative action to help the state's health insurance gap population." The article says the measure, HB 563, had "been on the House Reading Calendar for weeks and its consideration was delayed until April 1 – after the legislature hopes to adjourn. A motion to move the bill to the top of the Third Reading Calendar failed on a 14-55 vote."

The [AP](#) (3/22, Kruesi) reports that the bill, known as Plan First Idaho, would have provided assistance to some 15,000 women. But "Republicans members maintained their resistance to addressing the population who currently earn too much to qualify for Medicaid, but too little to qualify for insurance subsidies."

Op-Ed: FTC Approval Of Hospital Merger May Be "A Good Sign" For The CVS-Aetna Deal.

[Forbes](#) (3/22, 10.07M) contributor Bruce Japsen writes that on Thursday, federal regulators cleared a merger between Advocate Health Care and Aurora Health Care. Japsen says the Federal Trade Commission's approval of the "large hospital merger in the Midwest" may be "a good sign" for CVS Health's bid to acquire Aetna. He also mentions that in the past couple of years, "much has changed in the healthcare landscape," pointing to companies such as Walgreens and CVS, which are "forming closer ties with hospital systems and insurance companies and creating more competition for hospitals."

Inflated Prices May Explain America's Excessive Healthcare Spending, Study Suggests.

[CNBC](#) (3/22, Blumberg, 3.71M) reports on its website that researchers at the Harvard Chan School say in a new [study](#) that "inflated prices across the board" may explain why America's spending on healthcare is so excessive. "In the U.S., they point out, drugs are more expensive. Doctors get paid more. Hospital services and diagnostic tests cost more. And a lot more money goes to planning, regulating and managing

medical services at the administrative level,” CNBC says. Looking at hospital discharge rates for various procedures, such as knee and hip replacements and different types of heart surgeries, the researchers found that use of care services in the US “is not so different compared to other countries.”

Humana To Pay \$2.5 Million In Pay Discrimination Settlement.

The [Louisville \(KY\) Courier-Journal](#) (3/22, Schneider, 355K) reports that Humana has agreed to pay \$2.5 million in back wages and interest to settle allegations of pay discrimination against 753 women at the company’s headquarters in Louisville. The US Department of Labor’s Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs said the action arose from a routine compliance check, which found that in 2011-12, Humana paid women in consulting, project manager, and manager positions less than men in similar positions. The company did not admit liability, but it agreed to make pay adjustments and to take steps to ensure its pay practices meet legal requirements, according to the article.

Maine Lawmakers Override LePage Veto To Uphold Insurance Coverage For Naturopathic Care.

The [Bangor \(ME\) Daily News](#) (3/22, Haskell, 222K) reports that Maine lawmakers in both the House and the Senate this week overrode Gov. Paul LePage’s (R) veto of a new law, LD 1030, which requires health insurance companies to pay for services provided by naturopathic doctors. The law also prohibits insurers from charging higher out-of-pocket spending, such as co-pays or deductibles, for naturopathic care.

Idaho Governor Signs Law Requiring Abortion Providers To Gather Personal Information From Patients.

The [AP](#) (3/23, Kruesi) says that Idaho Gov. C.L. “Butch” Otter (R) signed legislation Thursday that will require abortion providers to report how many times their patients have terminated a pregnancy in the past, as well as other personal information. The move comes just two days after legislators approving a measure requiring women seeking abortions to be informed that the drug-induced procedures can be halted halfway.

Insurer Mergers With PBMs Raise Questions On The Effects For Consumers.

[STAT Plus](#) (3/22, Ross, Subscription Publication, 45K) reports on the industry of pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs), explaining that the three largest PBMs now “control about 70 percent of the market in the U.S.” and “if approved by authorities, all of them will soon be combined with insurance companies.” The article says that the mergers will not “mean the influence of these companies will disappear or become more diffuse,” rather, “it will be channeled through much bigger businesses whose potential impacts on competition and pricing are already generating fierce debate.” On the one hand, “PBMs and insurers say the combined companies will create efficiencies and lower prices, while their critics argue that they will accomplish the exact opposite.”

Human Services News

Pennsylvania State Senators Seek To Create Commission To Investigate Child Welfare System.

The [Wilkes-Barre \(PA\) Times Leader](#) (3/22, O'Boyle, 127K) reports that Pennsylvania state Sen. Lisa Baker, R-Lehman Township, and Sen. Judy Schwank, D-Berks County, who lead the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, “are looking to establish an Interbranch Commission on the Child Welfare System to help create safer conditions for the thousands of children who find themselves in need of loving, nurturing homes.” Schwank said recent incidents of children who were abused and died in the foster care system confirm the need to investigate.

OIG Report Criticizes Washington Foster-Care Group Homes Following Audit.

The [AP](#) (3/22) says that unannounced visits in 2016 to 20 foster-care group homes in Washington revealed that every one of them failed to meet at least one state licensing requirement, according to an audit report released by the US Office of the Inspector General on Thursday. According to the report, “none of the group homes fully complied with medical-safety requirements and nearly all of them failed to meet one

or more environmental-, space- or equipment-safety standards.”

The [Seattle Times](#) (3/22, 984K) also covers the story.

ACS Aims To Increase Number Of Foster Children Placed With Relatives, But State Cuts Could Hinder Progress.

The [New York Daily News](#) (3/22, Jorgensen, 3.76M) reports that the Administration for Children Services in New York will seek to dramatically increase the number of foster children placed with family or close friends by 2020, “but Commissioner David Hansell warned that and other new initiatives could be endangered by threatened state cuts.” The city currently places 31 percent of foster children with relatives or close family friends, but will seek to increase that number to 46 percent by the end of 2020.

The [New York Post](#) (3/22, Calder, 4.27M) also covers the story.

Food & Import Safety

Judge Dismisses Investor Lawsuit Against Chipotle Over Foodborne Illnesses.

[Reuters](#) (3/22, Pierson) reports, “Chipotle Mexican Grill Inc on Thursday won the dismissal of an investor lawsuit claiming it concealed food safety risks, causing its stock to drop after widely publicized outbreaks of foodborne illnesses in 2014 and 2015.” US District Judge Katherine Polk Failla said the lawsuit failed to support its claim that Chipotle defrauded investors.

Medicare

Trump Administration Changes Payment Policy On Biologics.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/22, Walker, Subscription Publication, 6.8M) reports the Trump Administration changed a Medicare payment policy that rewarded physicians who used the lowest-price biosimilar versions of biologics. Supporters say the policy change encourages investment in biologics, while critics, including MedPAC and AHIP, say the change will increase prices.

ACOs Exit CMS’ Next Generation Program Because Of Changes.

[Modern Healthcare](#) (3/22, Castellucci, Subscription Publication, 231K) reports that seven accountable care organizations have withdrawn from CMS' Next Generation ACO Model program, leaving 51 ACOs in the group. Four of the seven "indicated that they decided to withdraw because changes made to the model's design, including the chosen risk adjustment, would directly hurt their ability to make money in the program." The article explains, "The biggest change to the model's design was the CMS' decision to lower the average risk score for 2017 by 4.82%, effectively making it more difficult to save money and earn a bonus or avoid a penalty." One provider, Sharp HealthCare in San Diego, signaled that it was considering legal action because it faces financial losses due to the changes.

Medicaid &CHIP

Texas Appeals To Trump Administration To Provide Medicaid Funding For Its Family Planning Program.

[Kaiser Health News](#) (3/22, Galewitz, Gorman) reports the Trump Administration is considering whether it will allow Texas to receive millions in Medicaid funding for its family planning program which "bars abortion providers," such as Planned Parenthood. The article notes that Texas eliminated its Medicaid-funded family planning program five years ago "when state officials said they wanted to specifically exclude Planned Parenthood because the group provides abortions." Texas is the first state to appeal to the Trump Administration to restore the funds, adding, prior Administrations have "historically declined to provide Medicaid dollars to states that don't allow patients to choose between 'any willing provider.'"

Virginia Legislators Address Medicaid Expansion At Community Town Hall.

The [Virginia Gazette](#) (3/22, Arriaza, 40K) reports delegates from the Virginia General Assembly met with local healthcare "experts and concerned members of the community in a town hall discussion on Medicaid expansion Wednesday night." Dr. John Whitley, a board member for the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy, called out state Sen. Thomas Norment (R) for leading the resistance to expanding

Medicaid in Virginia's budget bill, which will be revisited in April when the General Assembly re-convenes. Dr. Whitley argued, "We know of thousands of people in the commonwealth, 4,600 right now in our immediate area, are low-income folks who will lose any possibility of access to health care if the draw-down to Medicaid funds are not included."

Louisiana State Lawmakers Debate Whether To Use Tax Filings To Review Eligibility For Medicaid Recipients.

The [AP](#) (3/22, Deslatte) reports Louisiana lawmakers sparred Wednesday over a proposal to allow the state's legislative auditor to review people's state income tax returns in order to check Medicaid eligibility. Critics argued that the proposal "unfairly targets the poor" and an improper use of private tax information, while supporters – mostly Republican – contended that the proposal was an anti-fraud proposal "aimed at saving taxpayer dollars on a pricey health care program."

Tennessee Senate Delays Vote On Work Requirements For TennCare.

The [Tennessean](#) (3/22, Ebert, 386K) reports the Tennessee state Senate delayed voting on legislation that would impose work requirements on recipients of TennCare, the state's Medicaid program. State Sen. Kerry Roberts (R-Springfield), one of the co-sponsors of the bill, "asked that the measure to be sent back to the Senate calendar committee – a procedural move that delays a floor vote on the bill until a future date." According to the article, "Roberts declined to explain why he made the move," although Lt. Gov. Randy McNally (R-Oak Ridge) said while speaking to reporters, "I just wanted to check with the (Trump) administration and make sure that implementation of that bill is lined up and goes smoothly."

Also reporting is the [Chattanooga \(TN\) Times Free Press](#) (3/23, Sher, 168K).

Bill To Study Medicaid Public Option In Connecticut Narrowly Clears Committee.

The [CT News Junkie](#) (3/22, Stuart) reports that a bill to study a

Medicaid public option for health insurance in Connecticut “squeaked through the Human Services Committee Thursday on a party line vote,” ten votes to nine. Republicans objected to the “subject matter of the bill” and questioned the “makeup of the group which would be overseeing the study because seven of the nine members would be Democrats.”

Mississippi Saves \$4.6 Million In First Year Of Medicaid Pharmacy Program.

The [Jackson \(MS\) Clarion Ledger](#) (3/22, Wolfe, 252K) reports Mississippi officials say they have saved \$4.6 million this year under the state’s Medicaid pharmacy program called the Complex Pharmacy Program. The goal of the program is to give “more guidance to patients with specific, costly health issues, so that medications are taken as intended and in the most cost-effective manner.” Dorothy Young, Medicaid’s deputy director of health services, “said the program’s purpose is ‘not to avoid costs, but to make sure we’re supporting the providers caring for our beneficiaries.’”

Health & Medical News

Researchers Find NMN “Reactivates Faltering Blood Flow In Aging Mice.”

[TIME](#) (3/22, Park, 18.9M) reports researchers found that nicotinamide mononucleotide (NMN) “essentially reactivates faltering blood flow in aging mice.” The article points out that “compromised blood flow is a major component of aging, since it deprives tissues and organs, including the brain, of the essential nutrients and oxygen they need to function.” The [findings](#) were published in the journal *Cell*.

[STAT](#) (3/22, Begley, 45K) reports that the researchers found that the naturally occurring molecule NMN “increased levels of another called NAD+,” which “in turn, raised levels of a famous anti-aging enzyme called SIRT1, which has been the focus of nearly 30 years of research.”

Injection Of Human Stem Cells May Have Reduced Rats’ Dependence On Alcohol, Study Suggests.

[McClatchy](#) (3/22, Magness, 60K) reports researchers found that an

injection of human mesenchymal stem cells reduced rats' dependence on alcohol, according to a [study](#) published in Nature. The researchers found that "rats that received the injection drank 80 percent to 90 percent less alcohol than expected."

Experimental Lung Cancer Drug Not Effective Enough For Accelerated Approval, Company Says.

[Bloomberg News](#) (3/22, Spalding, Ockerman, 3.41M) reports AbbVie Inc.'s "experimental lung-cancer drug Rova-T [rovalpituzumab tesirine] suffered a setback."

[Reuters](#) (3/22, Mathias, Banerjee) reports AbbVie announced that it would not seek accelerated approval from the FDA for rovalpituzumab tesirine because of disappointing results in a phase 2 trial that was testing the drug "as a treatment for small cell lung cancer patients who failed to respond to at least two prior regimens." However, late-stage trials testing the drug "as a treatment for patients who have either failed to respond to initial treatment or are newly diagnosed will continue."

[STAT](#) (3/22, Silverman, 45K) reports in "Pharmalot" that AbbVie paid \$5.8 billion for the drug two years ago with the hope that it would lessen the company's dependence on Humira (adalimumab). [Fierce Biotech](#) (3/22, Adams) also covers the story.

Opinion: The 340B Program "Has Grown Beyond Its Original Intent."

Elsa Pearson, MPH, and Austin Frakt, PhD, a policy analyst and an associate professor at Boston University School of Public Health, respectively, write in [STAT](#) (3/22, 45K) "First Opinion" that "there's mounting evidence the 340B program has been exploited for profit under the guise of 'doing good.'" Pearson and Frakt argue that the program was enacted with "noble intentions," but "it has grown beyond its original intent."

Arena Pharmaceuticals Has Recovered From Failed Weight-Loss Drug.

The [San Diego Union-Tribune](#) (3/22, Fikes, 678K) reports Arena Pharmaceuticals has recovered from a weak performance in 2015 when

the company was facing “disappointing sales of its weight-loss drug, Belviq [lorcaserin].” The article explains that since that at a low point, the company “has replaced its leadership, got out of the weight-loss market and redirected efforts to other ailments, especially autoimmune diseases, in which the immune system attacks the body.”

GSK Now Lead Contender To Buy Pfizer’s Consumer Healthcare Business.

[Reuters](#) (3/22, O'Donnell, Hirschler) reports GlaxoSmithKline is now the lead contender to buy Pfizer’s consumer healthcare business following Reckitt Benckiser’s withdrawal. The article reports that GSK has “submitted a binding bid,” but “there may still be other offers,” according to “sources familiar with the matter.”

Defamation Lawsuit Over Hepatitis C Outbreak In North Dakota Scheduled For Trial In 2020.

The [AP](#) (3/22) reports a defamation lawsuit filed by Trinity Health, a hospital in Minot, ND, against Markham Group, a communications firm based in Arkansas, is scheduled to go to trial in February 2020. Trinity claims that Markham “published false statements online to lead the public to believe that Trinity caused the Minot [hepatitis C] outbreak between 2011 and 2013,” which was “one of the largest hepatitis C outbreaks in recent US history.”

Reducing Calories By 15% For Two Years May Slow Metabolic Process That Leads To Aging, Study Says.

[CNN](#) (3/22, Scutti, 80.58M) reports that researchers found that “cutting calories by 15% for two years can slow the metabolic process that leads to aging and protect against age-related diseases.” The [study](#) was published in the journal Cell Metabolism. The National Institute on Aging supported the study.

[HealthDay](#) (3/22, Thompson, 10K) reports investigators found that “people who reduced their caloric intake by just 15 percent over two years...developed a lower core body temperature, lower blood sugar and insulin levels, and significant drops in hormones that moderate metabolism.” The researchers also found that the study participants “had a significant reduction in oxidative stress related to their lowered

metabolism.”

One-Third Of Africans Carry A Mutation That May Help Resist Malaria, Study Suggests.

The [San Diego Union-Tribune](#) (3/20, Fikes, 678K) reports researchers found that “one-third of Africans carry a previously unknown mutation that appears to help them resist malaria.” The [findings](#) were published in Cell. The National Institutes of Health supported the study.

Enhanced Pap Test May Be Able To Detect Cervical, Ovarian, And Endometrial Cancers, Study Suggests.

[Nature](#) (3/22, 157K) reports researchers found that an enhanced Pap test “for cervical cancer can also detect early-stage ovarian and endometrial cancers.” The [findings](#) were published in Science Translational Medicine.

Residents Near Harvey-Damaged Chemical Plant Wary Of Water.

The [AP](#) (3/22) reports on the residents near the Arkema chemical plant that was heavily damaged during Hurricane Harvey. The plant experienced several chemical spills and fires during the storm. Residents say “they still know very little about any potential health effects from the flood and fires. They don’t know what chemicals they’ve been exposed to – or about any threat from air they breathe or water they drink.” Company contractors and federal regulators conducted some sampling of the air and water as well as solid ash produced by the fires, “but critics say it was done in a haphazard, patchwork way that was inadequate to establish whether there is a threat to public health.”

Patient Information May Be Discarded In Hospital Recycling, Posing Security Risk.

[Reuters](#) (3/22, Crist) reports that a recent [study](#) published in JAMA describes an audit of recycling bins at five hospitals in Toronto where researchers found more than 2,500 paper documents with personally identifiable patient information. As more patient data are kept in electronic health records, paper records may be discarded more frequently and create risk for privacy breaches, researchers found.

Healthy Patients With Sequenced Genomes Spent More On Healthcare During Trial.

[STAT](#) (3/22, Begley, 45K) reports a recent [study](#) published in Genetics in Medicine found that sequencing people's genomes might not lead to extensive and expensive follow-up care. For the study, researchers recruited 100 healthy adults and 100 patients with cardiomyopathy, assigning roughly half of each group to undergo whole-genome sequencing and the other half to have a review of their family medical history. The researchers followed the volunteers for six months after they and their physicians received the sequencing or family history results, "reasoning that if people were told they had a genetic variant that increased the chance of having" an ailment, then they would seek further testing right away. However, "over that period, the healthy volunteers who had genome sequencing incurred slightly higher medical costs of \$3,670, on average, compared to \$2,989 for those who had just a basic family medical history."

Kentucky Sees Surge In Hepatitis C Cases.

The [Louisville \(KY\) Courier-Journal](#) (3/22, Ungar, 355K) reports that a Courier-Journal investigation found hepatitis C "has skyrocketed among Kentucky births amid the state's raging drug epidemic," but attempts to prevent, track, and control the infectious, curable disease have fallen short. "That means many kids don't get the care they need, risking cirrhosis and liver cancer in adulthood – or even early death," according to the article. State statistics show one in 56 Kentucky births from 2014-2016 were to mothers with a history of hepatitis C. Those births more than quadrupled between 2010 and 2016, from 260 to 1,057 a year.

Medical Marijuana Dispensary Bans Patients For Online Complaints.

The [Washington Post](#) (3/22, Chappell, 15.96M) reports that Allegany Medical Marijuana Dispensary in western Maryland banned "at least four customers because they posted complaints online about pricing or other issues." The ban has sparked concern from advocates, and it potentially violates state rules for the emerging industry, according to the article.

Netflix Adds Warning Video Before “13 Reasons Why.”

The [New York Times](#) (3/22, Libbey, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) reports Netflix has added a warning video that will play before its series “13 Reasons Why.” The company will also promote resources to help young viewers and their parents address the show’s themes. The article says this move comes after Netflix was criticized over how the series’ first season depicted suicide.

Omega-6s May Aid The Heart, Study Suggests.

The [New York Times](#) (3/22, Bakalar, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) reports that a new [study](#) published in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition suggests omega-6s can be good for the heart. The study found that “compared with men in the lowest one-fifth for blood levels of omega-6, those in the highest fifth had a 43 percent lower risk of death from any cause and a 46 percent lower risk of cardiovascular death.”

New Hampshire House Approves Bill Allowing Pharmacists To Prescribe Contraceptives.

The [Concord \(NH\) Monitor](#) (3/22, DeWitt, 35K) reports the New Hampshire House passed a bill by voice vote on Thursday to allow “pharmacists to prescribe contraceptives without the need for a doctor’s visit.” The measure would only allow pharmacists to prescribe contraceptives if physicians first issued standing orders.

Skilled Nursing Use Down Due To Generational Shifts, Shifting Payment Models.

[Bloomberg BNA](#) (3/21, Graham, 4K) reported skilled nursing providers are struggling to navigate pressures such as a “generational cycle” where older adults are healthier and in need of fewer “medical services and therefore fewer SNF stays.” The article says value-based payment models also “are likely contributing to a decline in SNF stays” as providers work to cut expenses, “which in turn takes SNF admission out of the total recovery equation.”

Oklahoma’s Flu Season Breaks Records With Number Of Flu Deaths, Hospitalizations.

The [AP](#) (3/22) reports Oklahoma has counted 242 flu deaths this season, “deepening the severity of an already record flu season in the state.” The state Department of Health said on Thursday that more than 4,500 people have been hospitalized. Department officials “say flu-related deaths and hospitalizations surpass any season in Oklahoma since the department began tracking the illness in 2009.”

Texas Flu Waning But Predicted To Continue For Several Weeks.

The [Dallas Morning News](#) (3/22, Cardona, 982K) reports Texas flu has peaked, with the number of people sickened by the virus or a flu-like illness dropping “pretty dramatically,” according to a Texas Department of State Health Services spokeswoman. Nevertheless, the flu is predicted to remain active “for several weeks.”

Flu Kills 46 People In New Hampshire.

The [New Hampshire Union Leader](#) (3/22, Feely, 103K) reports New Hampshire health officials have confirmed 46 flu deaths this season, “one less than last year’s total of 47.” New data from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services show “all of the flu victims who have died in New Hampshire this season have been adults,” while two of the victims last year were children.

Monteris Medical’s Brain Probe receives FDA Class I Recall.

The [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) (3/21, Carlson, 1.18M) reports that on Thursday, the Food and Drug Administration “issued a Class I recall alert on about 50 NeuroBlate systems for MRI-guided brain surgery made by Plymouth-based Monteris Medical.” The brain probe has reportedly been linked to “problems that included a patient death.” The FDA’s Class I recalls are “the highest severity level” and are voluntary, meaning “there are no plans to remove the products from the field.” The FDA also sent a “Dear Health Care Provider” letter, writing, “Until appropriate mitigation strategies have been identified by the manufacturer and evaluated by the FDA, health care providers should strongly consider treating patients using alternative procedures if possible.”

E-Cigarette Use Linked To Lower Rates Of Smoking Cessation,

Research Suggests.

[Reuters](#) (3/22, Rapaport) reports that smokers who also use e-cigarettes may be 48 percent less “likely to give up tobacco as smokers who never vape at all,” according to a [study](#) published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine. The researchers further found that smokers “also used more cigarettes a day when they vaped than when they avoided e-cigarettes altogether.”

An Increasing Number Of Extremely Premature And Underweight Babies Appear To Have Cerebral Palsy Or Other Motor Impairments, Study Finds.

[Reuters](#) (3/22, Rapaport) reports, “More than one-third of extremely premature and underweight babies have cerebral palsy or other motor impairments that can make it hard for them to do basic things like ride a bike or use a fork,” researchers found after examining “data on children in Victoria, Australia, who were born at less than 28 weeks gestation or weighing less than 1,000 grams (2.2 pounds) during three time periods: 1991-1992, 1997 and 2005.” The study found that the “proportion of these vulnerable babies who had cerebral palsy or other motor impairments by age eight climbed from 23 percent at the start of the study to 37 percent by the end.” The [findings](#) were published online in Pediatrics.

Oklahoma Measure Requiring Kids Under 14 To Wear Seat Belts Now Heads To State Senate.

[TIME](#) (3/22, Zorthian, 18.9M) reports that [HB 3026](#), a measure requiring youngsters “under 14 to wear seat belts, has passed the Oklahoma House.” The bill now heads to the state senate for its consideration. Currently, Oklahoma kids “between the ages of 8 and 13 are allowed to ride in the back seat of cars in” the state without having to buckle up. The proposed legislation “would outlaw that possibility and require parents to secure children under the age of 14 with seat belts.”

A Growing Share Of Medical Students Now Choosing To Specialize In Psychiatry.

In a greater than 2,200-word story, the [Chicago Tribune](#) (3/20, Elejalde-Ruiz, 2.31M) reports that a “growing share of medical

students” are choosing psychiatry as their specialty. This comes at a time when the US is grappling “with a stubborn shortage of psychiatrists that some fear will continue to deepen.” At a time when “greater awareness, diminished stigma and a worsening opioid crisis are driving more people to seek mental and behavioral” healthcare, about “60 percent of psychiatrists are over age 55, fueling a retirement wave that experts say exceeds the pipeline of new doctors who fill limited psychiatric residency slots.”

Maine Officials Warn Unlicensed Tattoo Artist May Have Exposed Customers To Hepatitis C.

The [AP](#) (3/23) reports the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention says an unlicensed tattoo artist may have exposed multiple people to hepatitis C. The AP reports, “According to officials, receiving a tattoo from an unlicensed artist increases the risk of contracting hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HIV.”

Global Health

Generic Drug Industry In India Is Coming Under Pressure.

[The Economist](#) (3/22, 2.36M) reports that India is a large supplier of generic drugs to the US and other markets, but its pharmaceutical industry is facing increased oversight from the US FDA as well as competition from China and elsewhere. The article suggests that the pharmaceutical industry in India needs to adapt and points out that some firms are turning “to more intricate products, such as patches and inhalers, as well as to more complex drugs.”

India Allocates \$1.5 Billion For Modicare Health Insurance.

[Reuters](#) (3/22, Kalra) reports that India has allocated \$1.54 billion for its ambitious health program aimed at providing insurance coverage for about half the population, the health minister said on Thursday. Called “Modicare,” the program would provide 100 million families, or about 500 million poor people, with health coverage of 500,000 rupees per year for the treatment of serious ailments.

EMA Does Not Approve Osteoporosis Drug Abaloparatide.

The [Boston Business Journal](#) (3/22, Stendahl, Subscription Publication, 634K) reports the European Medicines Agency has rejected Radius Health's osteoporosis drug Tymlos (abaloparatide). The article notes that the FDA approved the drug last year.

Demand For US Sperm Is Skyrocketing In Brazil.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/22, Pearson, Subscription Publication, 6.8M) reports that wealthy Brazilian women are importing the sperm of young US men at unprecedented rates as more rich, single women and lesbian couples select donors whose online profiles suggest they will yield light-complexioned and preferably blue-eyed children. Imports are rising in part because many Brazilians simply do not trust the national product. The preference for white donors reflects a persistent preoccupation with race in a country where social class and skin color correlate with blatant accuracy, according to the article.

New Mexico Sees 66% Drop In Tuberculosis Infections.

The [Albuquerque \(NM\) Journal](#) (3/22, Nathanson, 210K) reports the New Mexico Department of Health announced that the state has seen a decrease in the number of tuberculosis cases by 66 percent between 1996 and 2017. State data show that "the number of people diagnosed and treated for new cases of" infectious tuberculosis "was 37, down from 89 two decades ago." A leading department official confirmed, "TB rates are now at their lowest point on record in New Mexico and in the United States."

Scotland Could Cut Avoidable Cancer Diagnoses By 40% Annually If People Adopted Different Lifestyle Choices, Study Suggests.

[BBC News Online \(UK\)](#) (3/23, 1.27M) reports Cancer Research UK, a charitable organization, released a study finding that nearly 13,000 cases of cancer in Scotland could be avoided each year if people adopted healthier lifestyle choices. The organization said Scotland could decrease its annual cancer diagnoses by 40 percent – "the largest number of preventable cancer diagnoses in the UK" – by changing behaviors related primarily to "smoking, obesity and alcohol consumption."

The [Telegraph \(UK\)](#) (3/23, Knapton, 1.07M) reports the leading

cause of “avoidable” cancer is smoking, “followed by excess weight, overexposure to UV radiation from the sun and sunbeds, drinking alcohol, eating too little fibre, and outdoor air pollution.”

Opinion: The WHO's Promotion Of “Plain Packaging” Policies Violates Intellectual Property Rights.

Lorenzo Montanari, Director of International Programs and Affairs for Americans for Tax Reform, writes in [Forbes](#) (3/22, 10.07M) that since Australia put its “plain packaging” measures into effect, a “two-decade steady decline in smoking stopped,” according to government records. Montanari calls the policy an “extreme anti-property rights” measure and said it is “a direct attack on economic freedom and should never have gone into practice.” The piece explains that the policy infringes on the intellectual property rights of tobacco companies in violation of international treaties at the United Nations and World Trade Organization, adding that a coalition of 62 organizations have sent a letter requesting that the World Health Organization put a stop to “infringing on intellectual property rights with plain packaging policies.”

World Bank Supports Agricultural Pollution Controls In East Asia.


[Reuters](#) (3/23, Thukral) reports the World Bank is backing “efforts to control agricultural pollution in East Asia” amid rising consumption and urbanization in the region. The World Bank published a new study which “highlights the incidence and significant consequences of agricultural pollution in China, Vietnam and the Philippines,” Reuters reports. Victoria Kwakwa, the bank’s vice president for East Asia, said in the statement, “This report shows that a reorientation of public policy and spending toward pollution control can benefit farmers and consumers alike.”


National News

Dow Plummets As Trump Moves To Levy \$60 Billion Worth Of Tariffs On China.

Media reports reacted with alarm to the President’s decision on trade with China, with nearly every news story highlighting the negative reaction on Wall Street amid fears of a damaging trade war. [Video](#)

[NBC Nightly News](#) (3/22, lead story, 2:10, Holt, 16.61M), for example, led its broadcast reporting that “the complicated world of international trade hit very close to home for millions of Americans...when the stock market, along with it, their retirement savings, plunged after what many fear was the first shot in a trade war with China.” NBC (Jackson) added that “trade war worries” are “igniting after the President signed” an “order to slap tough tariffs on China” as “punishment for unfairly stealing technology secrets from US companies, he says.” NBC also reported, “For Donald Trump, it’s promise made...promise kept.”

[Reuters](#) (3/22, Mikolajczak) notes the Dow dropped 724 points, while “the S&P 500 lost 68.24 points, or 2.52 percent, to 2,643.69, and the Nasdaq Composite dropped 178.61 points, or 2.43 percent, to 7,166.68.” The losses “marked the biggest daily percentage drop for each of the major indexes since Feb. 8, when the Dow and S&P confirmed a market correction from their Jan. 26 highs.” According to [USA Today](#) (3/22, Shell, 9.51M), “growing uncertainty as to how the growing friction over trade will ultimately play out – and how bad it will get – is a major market concern.” Also focusing on Wall Street’s reaction, [ABC World News Tonight](#)  [Video](#) (3/22, story 3, 0:55, Jarvis, 14.63M) said that “the very industries meant to benefit here in the US – aerospace, machinery, IT --, had some of the biggest losses” because of “fears” of “retaliation: What if China strikes back?” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/22, A1, Wursthorn, Otani, Subscription Publication, 6.8M) runs a similar story on its front page under the headline “US Stocks Sell Off On Concerns About Trade.”

The [Washington Times](#) (3/22, Miller, 491K) reports that while “the move stoked fears of a trade war with America’s largest trading partner,” Trump “insisted he was finally leveling the playing field for American business that have been ripped off for decades.” Trump said as he signed the memorandum initiating the process, “This is the first of many.” As the [AP](#) (3/22, Wiseman, Thomas) explains, Trump’s order “paves the way for imposing tariffs on as much as \$60 billion worth of Chinese imports to punish Beijing for what he said is the theft of American technology and Chinese pressure on US companies to hand it over.” Referring to the US-China trade imbalance, Trump said, “It is the largest deficit of any country in the history of our world.”  [Video NBC Nightly News](#) (3/22, lead story, 2:10, Holt, 16.61M) also showed Trump

saying of the US trade deficit with China, "We're going to get it taken care of. And frankly, it's going to make us a much stronger, much richer nation. It's probably one of the reasons I was elected."

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/22, Davis, Subscription Publication, 6.8M) runs a similar report, in which it notes Trump's said the US trade deficit with China is "out of control." [Townhall](#) (3/22, Pavlich, 226K) notes Trump also said yesterday, "We're doing things for this country that should've been done for many, many years. ... We have a tremendous intellectual property theft going on, which likewise is hundreds of billions of dollars and that's on a yearly basis." He continued, "This has been long in the making. We've lost, over a fairly short period of time, 60,000 factories in our country, six million jobs at least. Gone." Vice President Pence also weighed in, saying, "The era of economic surrender is over." [Breitbart](#) (3/22, Carney, 1.32M), meanwhile, quotes senior White House adviser Everett Eisenstadt as saying, "The end objective of these actions is to get China to modify its unfair trade practices."

The [Video CBS Evening News](#) (3/22, story 2, 2:50, Garrett, 11.17M) said the Administration now "has 15 days to identify which Chinese imports will face the new tariffs," though "it will be at least 30 days after that before those tariffs actually take effect, giving both nations time to find, if they want to, another way." [Reuters](#) (3/22) also reports that as a result, "China will also have space to respond to Trump's actions, reducing the risk of immediate dramatic retaliation from Beijing." Yesterday, "Trump struck an emollient tone as he started speaking," saying, "I view them as a friend. ... We have spoken to China and we are in the middle of negotiations."

[Bloomberg News](#) (3/22, Mayeda, Olorunnipa, 3.41M) reports that according to a fact sheet released by USTR, "the US will impose 25 percent duties on targeted Chinese products to compensate for the harm caused to the American economy from China's policies." The "proposed product list will include items in aerospace, information and communication technology and machinery." The [Washington Post](#) (3/22, Lynch, 15.96M) indicates that "the White House expects the new taxes, which could reach up to 1,300 specific imports, will have a 'minimal impact' upon consumers,"

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/22, Lauter, 4.81M) reports Trump also

"will direct the Treasury Department to come up with new restrictions on Chinese investment in the US, beyond the rules that currently limit foreign purchases of US companies and assets." As the [Washington Examiner](#) (3/22, Westwood, 381K) points out, Treasury Secretary Mnuchin "has 60 days from the date of Trump's memo to 'report to me his progress.'"

[USA Today](#) (3/22, Jackson, 9.51M) notes the Administration also "announced the filing of formal complaints with the World Trade Organization, even though he said the WTO has been 'a disaster' for US trade and often acted unfairly to Americans." According to "officials," the WTO case "will be based on the results of an investigation by the US trade representative's office."

Meanwhile, the [New York Times](#) (3/22, Landler, Tankersley, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) says that "coupled with the administration's decision to exempt the European Union, South Korea, Brazil, Canada, and Mexico from the tariffs on cheap metals, the action demonstrates how much Mr. Trump's nationalist trade agenda is really targeted at a single country: China." Said Peter Navarro, "architect of the measures" and director of the White House National Trade Council, "What the United States is doing is strategically defending itself from China's economic aggression. ... We repeatedly aired our concerns about China as a nonmarket economy." The [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/22, Lauter, 4.81M), meanwhile, notes Navarro, "a longtime critic of Chinese practices, called Trump's move a 'historic event' that is part of a 'seismic shift' by the administration away from decades of US policies that sought to draw China further into the international economic order." [Politico](#) (3/22, Behsudi, 2.92M) further quotes Navarro as saying, "Administrations before us and this administration have tried very, very hard to work with the Chinese. ... The problem with the Chinese in this case, talk is not cheap, it's been very expensive to the American people."

In an analysis piece, the [New York Times](#) (3/22, Goodman, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) says that "if these demonstrations of muscle are intended to strengthen the American position in grappling with China, trade experts increasingly fret that Mr. Trump's policies are doing the opposite: They potentially diminish the place of the United States in the world by alienating allies, undermining the potential for

collective action among countries nursing shared grievances with China." On the issue of intellectual property theft, the [New York Times](#) (3/22, Tejada, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) reports in a separate story, "the landscape is more complex than the Trump administration's complaint suggests," and that "the Chinese government angrily denied the accusations." In fact, "in recent years, some experts say, Chinese hacking has ebbed."

Schumer Says Trump "Exactly Right" On This Issue. [The Hill](#) (3/22, Carney, 2.4M) reports Senate Minority Leader Schumer "heaped praise Thursday on...Trump's decision to crack down on China's trade practices." Schumer said on the Senate floor, "I don't agree with...Trump on a whole lot, but today I want to give him a big pat on the back. He is doing the right thing when it comes to China." He also said that "unfortunately, previous presidents, Democrat and Republican, just stood by as China did what it did to us," but "Trump is exactly right." The [Daily Caller](#) (3/22, Datoc, 566K) runs a similar report under the headline "Schumer: Trump Is 'Exactly Right' On Proposed China Tariffs."

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/22, Lauter, 4.81M), meanwhile, reports Trump's decision, "despite the risk of setting off a wider trade war, met with bipartisan approval Thursday, reflecting the growing disillusionment with Beijing on the part of many American officials and business leaders." The Times notes Schumer "praised" Trump's move, and adds that "a leading Republican, House Ways and Means Committee chair Kevin Brady of Texas, offered more nuanced praise." Said Brady, "Trump is right to take a hard line against China's dishonest trade practices, which have clearly harmed American workers. ... The challenge for every president, however, is how to punish China without harming our families, businesses, and farmers. Tariffs are taxes, so the next 30 days of input are crucial to make sure we don't punish American workers and families for China's misbehavior."

Pence Defends Trump Move During New Hampshire Appearance. The [AP](#) (3/22, 621K) reports Vice President Pence said in New Hampshire that "Trump's decision to impose tariffs on goods imported from China is a move to combat unfair trade practices." Pence's remarks came "at an event in New Hampshire hosted by the pro-Trump group America First Policies on Thursday to highlight the new tax reform law."

China Announces Tariffs On \$3 Billion Worth Of US Products. The [New York Times](#) (3/22, Buckley, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) reports "China announced Friday that it planned to impose tariffs on \$3 billion worth of American-produced fruit, pork, wine, seamless steel pipes and more than 100 other goods." The Chinese Commerce Ministry also said "China would also 'take legal action within the framework of the World Trade Organization.'"

On Thursday, [Bloomberg News](#) (3/22, Epstein, 3.41M) reports, China's Ambassador to the US, Cui Tiankai, "warned...Trump the Asian nation would return fire." In a video posted to the embassy's Facebook page, Cui said, "We don't want a trade war," but "we are not afraid of it."

The [AP](#) (3/22, Wong) reports, meanwhile, that "the Chinese government vowed...to take 'all necessary measures' to defend the country's interests," and the [Video CBS Evening News](#) (3/22, story 3, 1:30, Tracy, 11.17M) that "conservative Chinese media is using kids to issue trade threats. 'We will fight back fearlessly,' says this child, 'if they have an eye to us, we will cut out that eye.'" CBS added that "in its official response, China's Foreign Ministry specifically mentioned Boeing airplanes and US soybeans as examples of major US exports that could become targets of China's retaliation." Such "tariffs on soybeans would hit farmers in states such as Iowa and Ohio hard."

The [Washington Times](#) (3/22, Miller, 491K) also reports on Chinese vows for retribution, while the [New York Times](#) (3/22, Myers, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) says Trump's move "will put" President Xi Jinping "on the spot, forcing him to consider retaliatory action that could send a shudder through the global economy and complicate his efforts to sustain China's rapid growth in the face of rising debt and an aging population."

Rep. Ruben Gallego said on [Video CNN's Situation Room](#) (3/22, 884K) that the tariffs "don't help us," because "we need" China "to be strong with us in terms of standing against North Korea and making sure that we have a Korean peninsula that is pacified and denuclearized."

WSJournal, NYTimes Slam Trump, WPost Takes Wait-And-See Approach. In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/22, Subscription Publication, 6.8M) highlights the reaction to the announcement on Wall

Street, and says the selloff came about because investors – as does the Journal – doubt the White House has a larger strategy (beyond tariffs) to tackle the trade issue. The Journal goes on to warn that tariffs will lead to untold damage for the US economy.

The [New York Times](#) (3/22, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) writes in an editorial that while Trump “is on solid ground when he accuses China of stealing American technology and pressuring foreign companies to hand over intellectual property to Chinese firms as a condition of doing business there,” he “does not seem to know how to fix that pressing problem.” Though he “prides himself on being tough, especially on foreigners who he argues have been taking advantage of the United States,” Trump “has displayed great weakness in dealing with other countries by fawning over autocrats,” and has “reversed and contradicted himself so frequently that it can be impossible for not just adversaries, but even his own staff, to know what he stands for and what he is trying to achieve.”

The [Washington Post](#) (3/22, 15.96M) editorializes that “one US administration after another has tried to get China to change, without success,” and asks, “Will...Trump succeed where his predecessors have failed?” The Post adds that “the pessimistic view of this – apparently prevalent on Wall Street on Thursday – is that Mr. Trump has started a growth-killing trade war,” but “a more hopeful view” is that his “action is a shock to the system, which might stimulate serious negotiations with the Chinese.” The Post concludes that “at some point soon,” Trump “must articulate clear and reasonable objectives, regarding both China and the allies – and then be willing to take ‘yes’ for an answer.”

Dowd Resigns As Lead Trump Lawyer In Mueller Probe.

Media coverage of John Dowd’s resignation from the President’s legal team offered contradictory assessments of why Dowd stepped down and what his departure means for Trump’s legal strategy. [Politico](#) (3/22, Samuelsohn, 2.92M) , for example, reports that “Trump’s legal team has long been riven by a debate about how Trump should handle Mueller’s investigation,” and that “Dowd had preached a confrontational approach.” The [Washington Post](#) (3/22, Helderman, Leonnig, Parker, 15.96M) similarly notes Dowd said in a recent statement that the Mueller investigation “was fatally flawed early on and ‘corrupted’ by

political bias,” and that he “called on Deputy Attorney General Rod J. Rosenstein...to shut it down.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/22, Ballhaus, Nicholas, Subscription Publication, 6.8M) also reports Dowd’s exit comes after his attack on Mueller.

To the [AP](#) (3/22, Day, Tucker), on the other hand, “Dowd’s exit...threatens to undo the cooperation between prosecutors and Trump’s lawyers, and may herald a stark shift in strategy as the investigation reaches closer into the White House and the president’s inner circle.” [USA Today](#) (3/22, Johnson, Jackson, 9.51M) also expects “a more aggressive push by Trump’s legal team that had once pledged full cooperation with Mueller,” and the [New York Times](#) (3/22, Schmidt, Haberman, Subscription Publication, 13.35M), which broke the story, sees Trump “veering toward the combative approach supported by his longtime personal lawyer, Marc E. Kasowitz, who stepped back last summer but was still in contact with the president occasionally over the past several months.”

[Reuters](#) (3/22), among many other news outlets, notes Dowd’s brief statement yesterday, “I love the president and wish him well,” and to the [Daily Caller](#) (3/22, Daley, 566K), “the resignation reflects Trump’s continued struggle to attract and retain elite legal representation,” as “a number of Washington’s most-talented litigators, principally Ted Olson of Gibson Dunn, have rebuffed advances from Trump confidants, unwilling to leave comfortable perches at powerful law firms for an unpredictable client who keeps his own counsel.”

The [New York Times](#) (3/22, Schmidt, Haberman, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) cites an unnamed source who says Dowd “ultimately concluded that Mr. Trump was increasingly ignoring his advice.” Meanwhile, “the president was said to be pleased with Mr. Dowd’s resignation, as he had grown frustrated with him, particularly over the weekend when Mr. Dowd called on the Justice Department to end the special counsel investigation.” Trump “was angered with Mr. Dowd’s handling of the episode, telling people it was ham-handed and Mr. Dowd should not have backed off his initial statement.”

All three major network newscasts reported the story last night. The [Video CBS Evening News](#) (3/22, story 13, 0:20, Glor, 11.17M) briefly reported that “Dowd exits days after Mr. Trump added Joseph DiGenova to the legal team,” [Video ABC World News Tonight](#) (3/22,

lead story, 3:15, Karl, 14.63M) that "sources familiar with their relationship tell ABC News, Dowd felt the President wasn't taking his advice" and that "they had been at odds for a while," and [Video NBC Nightly News](#) (3/22, story 3, 2:05, Welker, 16.61M) that it had "learned" the "shake-up is part of a preparation for a potential" Trump "sit-down with Mueller."

Trump Says He "Would Like" To Testify Before Mueller, A Possibility Opposed By Dowd. [The Hill](#) (3/22, Fabian, 2.4M) reports the President said yesterday "he still wants to testify before...Mueller in the ongoing probe," telling reporters, "Yes. I would like to." Trump "has publicly and privately said he should sit down with the special counsel, while Dowd had advised against it."

The [Washington Examiner](#) (3/22, Westwood, 381K) and [Townhall](#) (3/22, Pavlich, 226K), among other news outlets, run similar stories. The [New York Post](#) (3/22, Fredericks, 4.27M), meanwhile, reports Mueller "wants to ask Trump about a meeting at Trump Tower in June 2016 between Russians offering dirt on Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump Jr., Jared Kushner and then-campaign manager Paul Manafort." He also "wants to grill the president about his firing of top G-man James Comey, and about Mike Flynn, the disgraced former national security adviser who has pleaded guilty to lying to the FBI."

The [New York Times](#) (3/22, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) editorializes that "Dowd resigned abruptly on Thursday, after concluding that Mr. Trump was increasingly ignoring his advice. Advice like, do not under any circumstances sit for an interview with the special counsel." Adds the Times, "Dowd, like any reasonably sentient person, knows there is no way that a conversation with Mr. Mueller would go well for the president," as "Trump doesn't have a relationship to the truth, but may at one point have had a fleeting affair with it, albeit one apparently covered by a nondisclosure agreement." The Times further predicts that "Dowd is the latest to flee Mr. Trump's legal team, but he won't be the last."

Democrats Say They Fear Trump Will Fire Mueller During Recess. [USA Today](#) (3/22, Kelly, 9.51M) reports "House Democrats said Thursday they fear...Trump will take action during the two-week congressional recess to fire...Mueller or otherwise derail the Russia investigation." Said Rep. Jamie Raskin, "You will notice a bit of trepidation on the part

of myself and my colleagues about going into the spring recess with an escalating series of threats and diatribes by the president against the special counsel. ... There always are a handful of people who go to Florida for spring break and start breaking things. We're hoping that President Trump is not someone who's going to go to Florida – specifically to Mar-a-Lago – and start breaking things in the Republic."

Sen. Richard Blumenthal said on [Video MSNBC's Morning Joe](#) (3/22, 1.14M), "What most concerns me on this day is that Congress will be going into recess for two weeks. And all of my Republican colleagues who assured me, 'oh, the President will never fire Bob Mueller,' are going to be scattered around the country and around the world. We need them to stand up now." He added, "There is intense discussion concerning is the special counsel being permitted to proceed with his investigation. We're talking about the rule of law here."

Sen. Chris Coons said on [Video CNN's Situation Room](#) (3/22, 943K) that he is "concerned" Trump will fire Mueller "happen in the coming weeks. Look at the pattern here, the President abruptly firing the secretary of state, Rex Tillerson, by tweet, and the President now moves to, by name, challenge Robert Mueller in saying his investigation, his status as special counsel never should have started, and now John Dowd, chief counsel for his defense team, who had been encouraging the President to cooperate with Robert Mueller abruptly resigns. I think all of this points, this is not a hint. This is a clear sign that the President is more and more likely to take the unacceptable step of abruptly firing Robert Mueller without cause."

Rep. Ruben Gallego said on [Video CNN's Situation Room](#) (3/22, 884K), "If he tries to fire Mueller, that's an impeachable offense. That's a line many of us are drawing. You've heard it from Democrats and Republicans."

Schiff Slams diGenova. Adam Schiff said on [Video CNN's The Lead](#) (3/22, 845K), "Bringing on the conspiracy theorist who will just stoke the unreality of the White House that there's a secret cabal of the FBI conspiring to frame the President, it's a destructive about for the country to bring on another voice like that, another person who apparently was auditioning on Fox News, brought at the Administration."

Hannity Blasts Mueller Probe As "Biased," Alleges Deep-State Action.

Sean Hannity, in a wide-ranging monologue at the start of [Video Fox News' Hannity](#) (3/22, 3.03M), said that "my advice to the President – you have to be very careful. I've been warning everybody about...Mueller and his merry band of Democratic donors. We know Robert Mueller is conducting a biased, partisan, totally flawed investigation. He's gone way beyond his mandate." Hannity called the investigation "one big giant incestuous deep state cabal trying to unseat a duly elected President."

Hannity also said [Video added](#), "[Hillary] Clinton bought and paid for [the] dossier [of] Russian lies to get a FISA judge to spy on Carter Paige and allowed them to spy on the Trump campaign. The bulk of the FISA investigation was made up of the phony Clinton dossier, full of Russian government lies and propaganda," adding that "the deep state is fighting back as they continue to get exposed." Hannity said the House Intelligence Committee found no evidence of Trump-Russia collusion, but predicted "the liberal media, the Democrats, lying to the American people," won't "report this tonight because it proves them to be liars and phony in their quest for journalism and truth. This is all disinformation campaign."

Daily Beast: Guccifer 2.0 Was Russian Intelligence Officer. In an "exclusive," the [Daily Beast](#) (3/22, Ackerman, Poulson, 1.37M) reported, "Guccifer 2.0, the 'lone hacker' who took credit for providing WikiLeaks with stolen emails from the" DNC, "was in fact an officer of Russia's military intelligence directorate (GRU)." The "forensic determination has substantial implications for the criminal probe into potential collusion between President Donald Trump and Russia." The Daily Beast said special counsel Robert Mueller "has taken over the probe into Guccifer and brought the FBI agents who worked to track the persona onto his team." The Daily Beast added that "the attribution of Guccifer 2.0 as an officer of Russia's largest foreign intelligence agency would cross the Kremlin threshold – and move the investigation closer to Trump himself."

Drawing from the Daily Beast story, the [Washington Examiner](#) (3/22, Leach, 381K) reported, "The hacker, whose identity is still not publicly known, failed to activate their virtual private networking, or VPN, service, which exposed his or her Internet Protocol address as one of a GRU officer working in the agency's Moscow headquarters."

Lake: By Acting As Member Of "Resistance," Brennan Validates Trump Claims About Intel Community. In a column for [Bloomberg View](#) (3/22, 3.41M), Eli Lake notes former CIA director Brennan's statement to MSNBC suggesting that Vladimir Putin was blackmailing the President. Says Lake, "For a few hours on Wednesday, America's worst fears about...Trump seemed to be confirmed," echoing a theme long "whispered by Democrats and implied by some in the media." Brennan "later clarified that was a false alarm" and he was simply speculating, and to Lake, the "explanation for Brennan's behavior is that he is now a part of the resistance," using "his position as a former CIA director to wage a political war against the president." While that "is his right as a U.S. citizen," Brennan is "playing a dangerous game" in using "his authority as a former CIA director to launch flimsy attacks on the president's legitimacy," because in doing so "he validates Trump's claim that the intelligence agencies are biased against him."

Ignatius: In Benczkowski Nomination, Checks And Balances May Protect Mueller Probe. David Ignatius, in his column in the [Washington Post](#) (3/22, 15.96M), wrote, "Brian Benczkowski, who served as head of the Trump transition team at Justice and was staff director of the Senate Judiciary Committee when" Attorney General Jeff Sessions was the ranking Republican, is nearing confirmation to head the Justice Department's Criminal Division. Ignatius adds, "because the stakes are so high in any matter that affects Mueller's status, it's worth reviewing the basic questions before the Senate votes on confirmation." Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse "worries that by sanctioning even a limited role for Benczkowski, Justice has opened a backdoor" into interfering with the investigation. However, Ignatius concludes, "Justice has summarized the rules, Whitehouse has voiced his worries, and the nominee appears to recognize proper limits. If these checks and balances hold up, they can help protect the rule of law as Mueller's investigation proceeds."

House Intel Committee Formally Ends Russia Probe.

[Reuters](#) (3/22) reports the House Intelligence Committee "voted on Thursday to release a Republican report on the panel's Russia probe," in "a decision that formally ends its examination of Russia and the 2016 US election." Chairman Devin Nunes "said the report" to be issued by the committee "was based on more than 70 witness interviews and the

collection of more than 300,000 documents,” and that it “will include minority views if the minority submits them.” The [Washington Times](#) (3/22, Boylan, 491K) notes the report will be made public “after the intelligence community reviews the document to redact classified information.”

[Politico](#) (3/22, Cheney, 2.92M) notes the report approved yesterday declares that “a string of contacts between” the President’s “associates and Russian government affiliates fell short of collusion and recommending dramatic new steps to crack down on intelligence leaks.” The [AP](#) (3/22, Jalonick) reports “the document is likely to please” Trump but “is fiercely opposed by committee Democrats, all of whom voted against approving it.” The [Washington Post](#) (3/22, Demirjian, 15.96M) says the vote “only stoked the fury of Democrats,” the [Daily Caller](#) (3/22, Ross, 566K) that “Democrats fumed over the decision to end the investigation,” and [The Hill](#) (3/22, Williams, 2.4M) that the are “outraged.”

Rep. Adam Schiff, the top Democrat on the committee, said on [Video CNN’s The Lead](#) (3/22, 845K), “Yes, we have [seen evidence of collusion between the Trump team and Russia], and, you know, when you can see the flaws in the report and see them when released.” He added, “They are not interested in finding out who or who Don Jr. talked to about the meeting at Trump Tower. There’s phone records that bear on whether the son talked to father, and witnesses that came in and refused to tell us about the creation of the false statement the President reportedly was involved in making about that meeting. They would not insist on hearing from, so there is evidence of collusion. There’s very well may be more evidence of collusion if the Republicans had been willing to try to find it, but their goal was different. Their goal was protect the President and that’s where we are.”

Sen. Chris Coons said on [Video CNN’s Situation Room](#) (3/22, 943K), “We just had a conversation in the Senate Judiciary Committee earlier today about how many of the witnesses we should have called on a bipartisan basis, have not yet come in similarly in the House Intelligence Committee. There’s a number of witnesses who came in and refused to testify, or who were never called. I don’t think they have gone to the logical conclusion of their investigation.”

Rep. Ruben Gallego said on [Video CNN’s Situation Room](#) (3/22,

884K), "The Republican House Intelligence Committee members are essentially engaging in a cover-up. They know that there were some things that were done there that were either illegal or at least questionable. But the fact that they haven't issued subpoenas, the fact that they haven't put any of these characters and actors that were involved with the Russian propaganda campaign as well as the Trump campaign under subpoena tells us that they're either trying to give cover to somebody or give cover to the President so he can act in whatever erratic manner he wants, or more importantly, to fire Mueller."

Report Concludes Clapper Misled Congress. The [Washington Free Beacon](#) (3/22, Gertz, 77K) says the report "has concluded that former Director of National Intelligence James Clapper misled Congress about disclosing information to CNN." The report states that "Clapper, now a contributor to CNN as a national security analyst 'provided inconsistent testimony to the committee about his contacts with the media, including CNN.'" The Free Beacon adds "a CNN spokeswoman did not return an email seeking comment.," and "Clapper could not be reached for comment." The [Daily Caller](#) (3/22, Ross, 566K) reports that while "it is not clear what information Clapper discussed with media outlets...he was involved in a highly significant meeting with...Trump just two weeks before the Republican's inauguration."

Schiff: Democrats Moved To Hold Bannon In Contempt. The [Washington Times](#) (3/22, Persons, 491K) reports Rep. Adam Schiff "said Thursday that Democrats moved to hold former White House Chief Strategist Steve Bannon in contempt for refusing to answer questions in the Russian collusion case." Said Schiff, "We have motions to hold Mr. Bannon in contempt as well as about a dozen motions to require subpoenas for those who refused to answer questions."

Goodlatte Subpoenas DOJ Records Tied To Clinton Probe, McCabe Firing.

[Politico](#) (3/22, Cheney, Schor, 2.92M) reported that House Judiciary Committee Chair Rep. Bob Goodlatte (R-VA) "subpoenaed the Justice Department Thursday for records connected to the FBI's 2016 investigation of Hillary Clinton - as well as the internal report that led to the ouster of former FBI deputy director Andrew McCabe." Politico said

that in a letter to the DOJ, Goodlatte wrote, "Given the Department's ongoing delays in producing these documents, I am left with no choice but to issue the enclosed subpoena to compel production of these documents."

In an online article, [CNN](#) (3/22, Raju, Shortell, Jarrett, 80.58M) reported, "The subpoena issued Thursday covers documents related to 'charging decisions in the investigation surrounding former Secretary Clinton's private email server in 2016,' as well potential abuses of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act and 'all documents and communications relied upon by FBI's Office of Professional Responsibility in reaching its decision to recommend the dismissal of former Deputy Director McCabe.'"

Sources Say Mueller Examining Links Between Cambridge Analytica, Trump Camp.

The [AP](#) (3/22, Lemire) reports that Special counsel Robert Mueller "is scrutinizing" ties "between President Donald Trump's campaign and the data mining firm Cambridge Analytica, which" is under fire "over reports that it swiped the data of more than 50 million Facebook users to sway elections. Mueller's investigators have asked former campaign officials about the Trump campaign's data operations, particularly about how it collected and utilized voter data in battleground states, according to a person with direct knowledge of the line of inquiry." Mueller's team has "also asked some of Trump's data team, which included analysts at the Republican National Committee, about its relationship with Cambridge Analytica, according to two former campaign officials."

Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) said on [MSNBC's Morning Joe](#) [Video](#) (3/22, 1.14M), "I have very strong concerns about Cambridge Analytica's relationship to the Trump campaign, but also to the Russians and the potential links there both in terms of money and information. That is really the keys to the kingdom and I think Cambridge Analytica also should be brought before our committee, they should be subpoenaed. They are certainly knowledgeable and culpable for this massive breach."

"Backlash Against Facebook" Grows Amid Revelations About Data Breach. On [NBC Nightly News](#) [Video](#) (3/22, story 5, 2:00, Holt, 16.61M), Lester Holt reported on "the growing backlash against

Facebook. CEO Mark Zuckerberg facing new calls to testify before Congress about the data secretly mined from over 50 million Facebook users. Zuckerberg has expressed his remorse," though "many users are saying apology not accepted." NBC's Jo Ling Kent added that while Zuckerberg has apologized, "the scandal so far sending the company's value down \$46 billion. Tech company Mozilla yanking advertising, saying when Facebook takes stronger action in how it shares customer data, we'll consider returning. Now, action from Congress after Zuckerberg suggested he might not be the best Facebook representative to go to Washington to testify." Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) was shown saying, "He's the right person, unquestionably and unequivocally."


Blumenthal said on [MSNBC's Morning Joe 📺 Video](#) (3/22, 1.14M), "I want to know what [Facebook is] going to do to make sure consumers know what information is shared with third parties and that they be given the right to consent to it, not just opt out, but opt in with full knowledge. And I think Mark Zuckerberg has to come before the Commerce Committee and the Judiciary Committee and explain how Cambridge Analytica was permitted to retain this information. Facebook did nothing to verify that it had deleted this information and still, incredibly, Facebook has failed to notify all of the users and consumers about what private personal information has been shared and is out there right now." He added, "Facebook needs to face regulation. They have failed to uphold their trust."

Rep. Greg Walden (R-OR) said on [CNBC's Closing Bell 📺 Video](#) (3/22, 228K), "[Facebook] is a great American, innovative company. People love to use it. They also want to make sure they understand fully how their data are being used or manipulated or sold or whatever, and I think we have to get to the bottom of that. Mr. Zuckerberg was the only one who's been there, literally, from the start. He created it. ... I think he would do a wonderful job coming before the committee and laying out what happened and what didn't happen and letting Americans know how they protect their data and what they do and don't. And how this happened."

Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA) said on [CNN's The Lead 📺 Video](#) (3/22, 845K) he thinks Zuckerberg should testify on Capitol Hill. "This was another motion made in the committee today to invite him to come

testify, but our motion was defeated. This is serious business. ... So, yes, [he] should come in and testify not only to our committee about Russia, misuse of the platform, but answer questions for other committees about the privacy of American's data, and, perhaps, most significant, as far as I'm concerned, is the impact that the algorithms that Facebook uses maybe having the effect of dividing us, causing us to live in information bubbles where we only hear the information their algorithms tell them we want to hear."

Responding To Taunt, Trump Says Biden "Would Go Down Fast And Hard."

On the [CBS Evening News](#)  [Video](#) (3/22, story 14, 0:30, Glor, 11.17M), Jeff Glor reported, "Fighting words from the 71-year-old President and 75-year-old Joe Biden. Here was the former Vice President Tuesday commenting on the President's treatment of women." CBS broadcast a clip of Biden saying, "If we were in high school, I would take him behind the gym and beat the hell out of him." Glor added, "Today, the President responded [in a [tweet](#)], saying, 'Crazy Joe Biden is trying to act like a tough guy. Actually, he is weak, both mentally and physically, and yet he threatens me, for the second time, with physical assault. He doesn't know me, but he would go down fast and hard, crying all the way.'"

[USA Today](#) (3/22, Jackson, 9.51M) reports that Trump's tweet came in response "to what he called a threat from...Biden." The [AP](#) (3/22, Lucey) reports that Biden "made similar comments in the closing days of the 2016 campaign." The [New York Post](#) (3/22, Steinbuch, 4.27M) reports, "While campaigning for Hillary Clinton in Pennsylvania in October 2016, [Biden] told the crowd: 'I wish we were in high school – I could take [Trump] behind the gym. That's what I wish.'" [Bloomberg News](#) (3/22, Dopp, 3.41M) reports, "The back-and-forth was an unusually blunt exchange between two politicians never known for getting along." While Trump was responding to Biden's comments, the [New York Times](#) (3/22, Sullivan, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) headlines its story, "Trump Threatens Biden, Saying He 'Would Go Down Fast And Hard' If They Fought."

Writing for the [Washington Post](#) (3/22, 15.96M), Dan Balz strikes a disgusted tone in discussing the Biden-Trump dust-up, saying this "is

what passes for political discourse these days, two grown men acting like macho little boys. It would be easy to dismiss it all as so much catnip for the cable networks, which of course it is. It also is a reminder of what has happened since Trump came onto the political scene, the extent to which he has defined politics down and the degree to which others seem unable to resist playing at that level."

[Politico](#) (3/22, Nelson, 2.92M) reported that Biden "has kept up his criticism of Trump since leaving office early last year, stoking talk that he might launch a White House bid in 2020." The [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) (3/22, Tamari, 1.14M) reports that in appearances across the US, Biden "has become Democrats' informal liaison to the white working class, which makes up much of Trump's loyal base," stirring "speculation that he is angling for a showdown with Trump in 2020." The Inquirer says Trump "has apparently taken notice," citing Trump's Thursday tweet targeting Biden.

In an online analysis for [CNN](#) (3/22, Enten, 80.58M), Harry Enten said of the exchanges between the two men, "This all feels like a preview of a Biden and Trump face-off come 2020. And, in fact, Biden versus Trump is probably the highest probability matchup compared to all the others at this moment in time, though it's still a relative long-shot."

Writing for [Politico Magazine](#) (3/22, Scher, 2.87M), Bill Scher said that "with the memory of the juvenile free-for-all that was the 2016 presidential campaign fresh in their minds, there is one thing every Democratic voter wants to see in their eventual 2020 nominee: the ability to take Trump on. Not who can literally throw a punch, but who can rhetorically punch and counterpunch with the most vicious campaign brawler ever to occupy the Oval Office. And in this respect, Biden, with his playground put-down, has put himself at the front of the pack."

[The Hill](#) (3/22, Thomen, 2.4M) reported that Vice President Pence on Thursday "suggested that he would pick...Trump to" defeat "Biden if the two had a fight." Asked by radio host Howie Carr "which of the men the vice president would back in a possible fight," Pence replied, "You know who I'd be betting on. ... It's just a little bit of trash talk going on, just got to make you chuckle in American politics today." The [Washington Times](#) (3/22, Staff, 491K) also reports on the Biden-Trump

exchanges.

Trump Unsure Enthusiasm For Him Is “Transferable” To GOP Candidates.

[Politico](#) (3/22, Weaver, 2.92M) reported that President Trump on Thursday said “that although he knows he’s popular with voters, he doesn’t know whether his success will carry over to Republicans running for office in 2018.” Speaking “during a Generation Next Summit panel at the White House,” Trump spoke about the enthusiasm he’s seen at some recent rallies in support of GOP candidates, but added, “Now I don’t know if it’s transferable. They say a lot of it is not transferable. They may like me. They may vote for me. They’re all saying I’m going to do great in 2020. ... But they don’t know if it’s transferable.”

Trump’s Advice To His 25-Year-Old Self: “Don’t Run For President.”

The [Daily Caller](#) (3/22, Kruta, 566K) reports that President Trump on Thursday “joined other members of his administration for a summit event geared toward millennials. Titled ‘Generation Next,’” the event “covered a broad range of topics, from the economy to the opioid crisis, and was capped off by a question-and-answer session between Trump himself and Turning Point USA founder Charlie Kirk.” At one point, “Kirk asked, ‘What advice would you give to the 25-year-old Donald Trump, knowing what you know today?’ Trump did not hesitate or equivocate,” replying, “Don’t run for president.”

Primary Foe: Romney Using Senate Bid “As A Steppingstone” To Challenge Trump.

The [Washington Times](#) (3/22, Miller, 491K) reports that Mitt Romney’s 2018 bid to succeed retiring Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT) “is stirring up speculation that he’s using it as a springboard for a primary challenge against President Trump in 2020. Larry Meyers, one of a dozen Utah Republicans” running in the GOP Senate primary, “has demanded Mr. Romney sign a contract pledging to serve a full six-year term and not enter the 2020 presidential race.” Myers is quoted as saying, “I’ve signed that contract with the voters and I challenge Mitt Romney to sign that contract and come clean with the voters. Is he willing to serve the full term for the people of Utah or is he using this as a steppingstone.”

Ex-Playboy Model Details Alleged Affair With Trump, Apologizes To First Lady.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/22, Finnegan, 4.81M) reports that former Playboy model Karen McDougal on Thursday "recalled having sex with Donald Trump dozens of times in the early years of the president's marriage to Melania Trump, sharing elaborate details in an interview televised" by CNN "of what she described as a 10-month love affair." During the interview, McDougal said "that she was racked with guilt about Trump cheating on his wife, especially when he showed her the couple's Trump Tower penthouse apartment when Melania was not home." Said McDougal, "If he weren't married, I wouldn't have any regrets." [USA Today](#) (3/22, Hayes, 9.51M) reports that McDougal, "apologizing for the alleged affair to Melania Trump," said in the interview, "What can you say except I'm sorry? I'm sorry. I wouldn't want it done to me."

The [New York Times](#) (3/22, Rutenberg, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) reports that McDougal said Trump "offered her money after their first sexual encounter. 'After we had been intimate, he tried to pay me, and I actually did not take that,' she" said, adding, "I looked at him and said, 'That's not me, I'm not that kind of girl.'" The Times says, "As a security aide of Mr. Trump's drove her home, she said, 'I started crying, I was really sad – it really hurt me.' But, she said, in spite of that encounter in 2006, 'I went back,' conducting what she described as a 10-month, serious relationship that she finally ended when she could no longer bear the guilt of betraying Mr. Trump's wife then-new wife, Melania."

The [Washington Post](#) (3/22, Reinhard, Brown, Berman, 15.96M) reports that McDougal "spoke about a relationship she says she had with Trump in 2006 and 2007, choking up as she recounted the guilt she felt for being a party to the affair, reflecting about the connection she developed in hotel rooms and restaurants with the 'sweet' man she said she fell in love with and unflinchingly recounting the affair's most intimate details."

Trump Tweets Photo Of Him And First Lady "Smiling Broadly." Under the headline "Trump's Put On A Happy Face Amid Cloud Of Alleged Sexual Shenanigans Over The President," the [New York Post](#) (3/22,

Fredericks, 4.27M) reports that President Trump – “facing a slew of accusations of sexual shenanigans from several women – on Thursday [tweeted](#) a photo of himself and the first lady looking lovey-dovey at the White House. Melania Trump first posted the photo, showing her and her allegedly wayward hubby in overcoats standing side by side on a White House balcony and smiling widely.” The President “then retweeted the image, a day after accusations about his past sexual exploits surfaced on three fronts.”

House GOP Leaders Worry Typically Safe Incumbents Won’t Be Prepared For 2018 Races.

[Politico](#) (3/22, Bade, 2.92M) reported on what it described as “what [House] GOP leaders fear most heading into the thick of the midterm elections: incumbents who haven’t seen a real race in years snoozing as a Democratic wave builds. Speaker Paul Ryan and the National Republican Congressional Committee are less concerned about their battle-tested swing-district members – who face tough races every election cycle – and more worried about complacent Republicans not prepared for a fight.” That’s “one of the reasons Ryan’s political team and NRCC officials have started holding a series of meetings with lawmakers from traditionally reliable GOP districts. Their message: Get ready for a roller coaster and begin your campaign in earnest now.”

AP Analysis: Suburbs Pose Risk To GOP’s House Majority.

The [AP](#) (3/22, Barrow) reports that as Democrats seek to retake the House this fall, “Republicans are facing an increasingly clear reality: They’ve got trouble in the suburbs. In the last two weeks, Democrats scored an upset in southwest Pennsylvania and dominated the voting in the Republican suburbs outside Chicago. President Donald Trump, who never won over suburbia, continues to get poor marks from the educated, upper income Americans who often call it home.” And in the wake of wins “in state legislative contests in Virginia and special elections across the” US – “even a stunning Senate election in Republican-dominated Alabama – Republicans have plenty of reason to worry that” the suburbs “may be their undoing in the fight for control of the House.”

Democrats Eye OH12 Special Election As Another Potential Election Upset.

[The Hill](#) (3/22, Kamisar, 2.4M) reported that Democrats hope the Aug. 7 special election to succeed ex-OH12 Rep. Pat Tiberi (R) "will become the latest in a string of upset wins ahead of the midterms. While Democrats admit they're the underdogs in" the contest, "there's optimism the party can mount another strong effort to flip a GOP House seat." The OH12 "is the most affluent and highest-educated in the state, home to the same kind of suburban voters who have powered huge Democratic gains in other red districts since President Trump took office," including the recent PA18 special election won by Conor Lamb (D-PA). The Hill added that Trump carried the OH12 "by 11 points in 2016, a closer margin than the" PA18, which the President won by 201 points.

LATimes Analysis: Democratic Candidates Embracing Strategy Of Disavowing Pelosi.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) (3/22, Wire, 4.81M) reports that in the wake of Conor Lamb (D-PA) having won the PA18 special election while vowing not to back House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi as head of the House Democratic caucus, "the Democratic Party appears to have an unconventional new strategy for dealing with anti-Pelosi campaign ads in 2018: Disavow her. Rather than defend Pelosi or try to change the subject, Democratic candidates are being given leeway – at least unofficially – to buck her if that's what's needed to win a seat in a conservative-leaning district – or even in a moderate one." The Times adds, "It's a bold strategy that may short-circuit GOP efforts to use her as their boogeyman."

Democratic Primary Foes Targeting "Frontrunner" Shalala.

In a report on the race to succeed retiring Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), [Politico](#) (3/22, Caputo, 2.92M) said that "fellow Democrats are bashing" ex-Clinton Administration Official Donna Shalala (D-FL) over donations she has made "to Republican candidates. Two of Shalala's seven primary opponents joined together Thursday to criticize her for personally contributing \$21,500 to Florida Republicans running for state, local and federal offices over the past decade — including...Ros-

Lehtinen.” In response, Shalala’s “campaign said the PAC donations were bipartisan and that she makes no apologies for her contributions to Republicans, which are dwarfed by her Democratic giving.” Meanwhile, a third primary foe “took a shot at Shalala by releasing a jokey video on Twitter last week that criticized her as ‘Donna Walmarta’ for selling a parcel of environmentally sensitive University of Miami land to developers who plan to build a Walmart. The multi-directional incoming fire underscores Shalala’s front-runner status in” the contest.

The [Miami Herald](#) (3/22, Hanks, 943K) reports that in a statement, the Shalala camp “called Shalala ‘one of the most iconic and celebrated members of the Democratic Party’ who has given about \$250,000 to Democratic candidates over the years. The figure dwarfs the nearly \$20,000 in Shalala donations for Republicans running in partisan elections at the state and national level cited by” her primary foes.

House Ethics Committee Reproves Rush, Gutierrez For Rules Violations.

[Politico](#) (3/22, Bresnahan, 2.92M) reported that the House Ethics Committee has found that Reps. Bobby Rush (D-IL) and Luis Gutierrez (D-IL) “violated chamber rules and must personally repay thousands of dollars for their actions.” However, the panel will permit Rush “to be repaid by his campaign committee for any personal cost, so the end result is that” he “won’t be out of pocket at all.” Rush’s “violation was tied to Chicago office space he has occupied for more than two decades without paying rent.” Gutierrez, meanwhile, “paid a former staffer-turned-consultant, Doug Scofield, for a decade out of his official congressional account. Gutierrez will now have to personally repay the Treasury Dept. for \$9,700 in improper payments to the ex-aide.” The [Chicago Sun-Times](#) (3/22, Sweet, 842K) reports that the committee “also handed Rush and Gutierrez each a public reprimand called a ‘reproval.’”

Pew Study: Women, College Graduates Flocking To Democratic Party.

The [New York Times](#) (3/22, Chokshi, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) reports that “women and college graduates” have been flocking “to the

Democratic Party in recent years. A larger share of college graduates identify as or lean Democratic than at any point in the past quarter-century, according to a new Pew Research Center report based on more than 10,000 interviews with registered voters last year. The data tell a similar story for women, too. Republicans have gained some ground, too, among older registered voters and those with a high school education or less."

United Mine Workers Union To Back Manchin, Ojeda.

In an "exclusive," [Reuters](#) (3/22, Gardner, Volcovici) reports that the United Mine Workers of America today will "endorse two Democrats running for Congress in West Virginia," according to "two sources," providing "a boost for Democrats trying to win over a constituency that voted heavily for Republican Donald Trump in 2016." The group will back state Sen. Richard Ojeda's (D-WV) 2018 bid to succeed Rep. Evan Jenkins (R-WV), who is running for Senate this year, and the reelection bid of Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV), "the sources said." Jenkins is vying with ex-Massey Energy CEO Don Blankenship (R), "who served a year-long prison sentence for conspiring to violate [mining] safety standards at the Upper Big Branch mine – where 29 miners died in 2010," and state Attorney General Patrick Morrisey (R) for the right to face off against Manchin this fall.

[The Hill](#) (3/22, Manchester, 2.4M) reported, "Coal miners are powerful constituency in West Virginia," where "Trump won by large margins in 2016. Trump campaigned on lifting various regulations on the industry and bringing coal jobs and has taken action in office to boost the industry."

Bannon Faults GOP Establishment For Moore's Loss.

The [AP](#) (3/22) reports that ex-White House chief strategist Steve Bannon, in a Thursday interview "at the Financial Times' 'Future of News' event," blamed "the Republican establishment for Alabama Senate candidate Roy Moore's defeat, saying GOP leaders pushed pedophilia accusations against him." Bannon said "Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell was too quick to back away from Moore, who faced charges of sexually abusing underage girls. Moore, whom Bannon supported, lost in December to Doug Jones, giving Democrats a US

Senate seat from Alabama for the first time in a generation.”

Steyer Spending \$2M Targeting Heller Reelection Race, Other Nevada Contests.

The [Reno \(NV\) Gazette-Journal](#) (3/22, DeHaven, 180K) reports that billionaire environmentalist Tom Steyer on Thursday said Sen. Dean Heller’s (R-NV) reelection contest and the race to succeed term-limited Gov. Brian Sandoval (R-NV) “will be the top targets of his new multimillion-dollar push to get young Nevadans to the polls.” Steyer said “that the \$2 million millennial-focused voter turnout effort will look to” unseat the “vulnerable” Heller and prevent state Attorney General Adam Laxalt (R-NV) from winning the governor’s race. The effort “will also seek to defend a pair of US House seats now held by Southern Nevada Democrats.”

Baldwin Faults Koch Brothers For Her Low Approval Rating.

The [Washington Free Beacon](#) (3/22, Crookston, 77K) reported that during a Thursday appearance on MSNBC, Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) “blamed her low approval rating among Wisconsin voters on political polarization fueled by outside donors such as the Koch brothers.” In response to a question “about her 2018 reelection campaign and a poll showing her approval rating at 37 percent,” Baldwin replied, “We’re a terribly polarized state, which I hate,” adding, “Wisconsin has seen more outside spending, more super PAC spending, particularly from the Koch brothers. These out-of-state special interests think they own Wisconsin, and they’ve been attacking me, and that certainly contributes to how people feel about politics.”

Schuetz TV Ads Tout Trump’s Backing, Hammer Primary Foe Calley.

The [AP](#) (3/22, Eggert) reports that Michigan state Attorney General Bill Schuetz (R), who is mounting a 2018 bid to succeed term-limited Gov. Rick Snyder (R), on Thursday “announced his campaign’s first TV ads – one that touts his support from President Donald Trump and another that criticizes” primary foe Lt. Gov. Brian Calley (R). The spots, “which will begin airing Friday, come a week after Calley started running his own ads and days after Calley was officially endorsed by” the exiting

Snyder. In one spot, an announcer "lauds Schuette's endorsement from Trump." The other ad hits Calley "for helping to pass a business tax as a lawmaker and fighting 'to bring more Obamacare to Michigan.'" That spot "also says Calley 'deserted' Trump – a reference to him withdrawing his support a month before the 2016 presidential election over an audio recording in which Trump made crude comments about groping women."

Michigan Chamber Of Commerce Backs Schuette. The [Detroit News](#) (3/22, Oosting, 524K) reports that the Michigan Chamber of Commerce on Thursday backed Schuette's bid. The News says, "The chamber's endorsement adds to Schuette's support from...Trump and Vice President Mike Pence, whom the attorney general earlier this month introduced the vice president before his tax cut speech in Detroit."

RNC Co-Chair Blasts Taylor, Lauds DeWine.

In a report on the 2018 race to succeed term-limited Gov. John Kasich (R-OH), the [AP](#) (3/22, Smyth) says that RNC Co-Chair Robert Paduchik on Thursday criticized Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor (R-OH) "for an ad he called 'false and misleading' and disputed her claim to assume President Donald Trump's mantle." The spot in question from the "pro-Taylor super PAC Onward Ohio" blasts state Attorney General Mike DeWine (R-OH) "on immigration, guns and trade. It suggests DeWine's positions align with Democrats' while Taylor's align with Trump's." Paduchik, in a statement, said that "Taylor was missing in action during the 2016 campaign and her supporter's claims for the 'Trump' mantle are based on political opportunism in direct conflict with years of silence and inaction." Paduchik added that DeWine "will be the most important state in the 2018 midterm elections and in Trump's re-election, and DeWine would be a governor 'who stands up for our conservative values and President Trump when it matters.'"

Rauner Likens Madigan's Business Practices To "Mafia-Protection Racket."

The [AP](#) (3/22, O'Connor) reports that Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner (R) on Thursday likened "the business practices of" veteran state House Speaker Michael Madigan (D-IL) to "mafia tactics, opening a new attack on his longtime political foe." Campaigning in Springfield, Rauner

"alleged the speaker has used his legislative post to help lower the property tax assessments for clients at his law firm." Said Rauner, "When a politician can raise taxes through the policies that he implements by controlling the General Assembly and...then he can become a millionaire by having a property-tax appeal law firm on the side where he charges businesses to get their taxes reduced, that is basically in effect a mafia-protection racket." Rauner also claimed that billionaire investor J.B. Pritzker (D-IL), the Democratic gubernatorial nominee, "is Madigan's 'money source.'"

GOP Hopes To Benefit From Nixon's Primary Challenge To Cuomo.

The [New York Times](#) (3/22, McKinley, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) reports that actress Cynthia Nixon's (D) 2018 primary challenge to New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) "has been a rare jolt of good news for the Republicans" in New York, where Democrats hold "a more than 2-to-1 edge in registered voters" and no GOP candidate has won a statewide race since 2002. GOP "consultants argue that Ms. Nixon's entry into the race will help their party's candidates in several ways, pushing Mr. Cuomo to the left" and "scuffing him up on a variety of issues, including his handling of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority."

Nixon Camp Says It Collected More Small Donations In One Day Than Cuomo Did In Seven Years. The [New York Post](#) (3/22, Campanile, Jaeger, 4.27M) reports that the Nixon camp "boasted Thursday that the leftie actress collected more grassroots donations in a single day than...Cuomo has in 7 years." Nixon's "campaign said it raked in 2,214 donations of less than \$200 in the first 24 hours after she announced her campaign Monday - compared to 1,369 Cuomo has reeled in since the start of 2011." Said Nixon campaign manager Nicole Aro, "Andrew Cuomo has built a \$31 million war chest from wealthy corporate interests, lobbyists, and billionaires. The incredible grassroots enthusiasm we're seeing so far is a sign that Democrats know that we can do better than Andrew Cuomo."

Donor Says He Steered Thousands In Illegal Contributions To De Blasio's Campaigns.

The [New York Times](#) (3/22, Rosenthal, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) reports that Long Island restaurateur Harendra Singh "testified

under oath on Thursday that he steered tens of thousands of dollars to Mayor Bill de Blasio's political campaigns in return for favorable treatment by the city. It was the first time [Singh] has publicly detailed his efforts to use campaign contributions – as much as \$80,000 raised from others, and much more personally by using 'straw donors' to skirt contribution limits – to gain better terms during lease negotiations for one of his restaurants." Singh "also suggested for the first time that Mr. de Blasio not only knew of the illegal arrangement, but that the mayor encouraged it and actively helped the restaurateur." Singh "was testifying as a cooperating witness in the corruption trial of Edward Mangano, the former Nassau County executive, and John Venditto, the former Town of Oyster Bay supervisor, both of whom Mr. Singh has pleaded guilty to bribing."

CNN President Zucker Says Fox News "Is Really State-Run TV."

The [Washington Examiner](#) (3/22, Quinn, 381K) reported that CNN President Jeff Zucker on Thursday blasted Fox News as "a complete propaganda machine." Speaking at the Financial Times "Future of News" conference, Zucker said that "Fox News 'is really state-run TV,'" adding, "It is a pure propaganda machine, and I think does incredible disservice to this country."

Hannity Blasts Zucker, CNN. Sean Hannity, in a wide-ranging monologue at the start of [Fox News' Hannity Video](#) (3/22, 3.03M), said, "We begin tonight with more fake news from CNN – it is spewing from the [head] of the Clinton news network President, Mark Zucker. He blasted Fox News's propaganda machine and state-run TV." Hannity said that CNN "is nicknamed the bleep hole network" and has "a new obsession: basically, soft core pornography from the nonstop coverage of Stormy Daniels to the constant speculation about an alleged affair between Trump and a porn star."

"Chappaquiddick" Offers "Unflinching" Look At Fatal Car Crash.

The [Washington Times](#) (3/22, Toto, 491K) reports that the late Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-MA) "is getting a posthumous close-up, and" his fans "might not like what they see. 'Chappaquiddick,' in theaters April 6, recalls the 1969 car accident in which Kennedy campaign strategist Mary Jo Kopechne died, casting a permanent shadow over his political

career. ... Early reviews indicate that the film offers an unflinching, detailed examination of the senator's serial transgressions after the accident."

WTimes Analysis: Conservatives May Be Unhappy With NFL Owners' Social Justice Package.

The [Washington Times](#) (3/22, Richardson, 491K) reports, "After two years of kneeling players and plummeting ratings, NFL owners are expected next week to put the finishing touches on an \$89 million social justice package intended to defuse the sideline protest problem that began with Colin Kaepernick in 2016." The Times adds, "The package's \$25 million for former Obama administration figure Van Jones and his left-wing Dream Corps isn't likely to sit well with conservatives already fed up with the league's politics."

Cardinal: Democrats' Rejection Of Catholics Is Disheartening.

New York Cardinal Timothy Dolan writes in an op-ed in the [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/22, Subscription Publication, 6.8M) that it saddens him to see the Democratic party shunning Catholics, whom it once embraced. Dolan argues that the party rejects two Catholic beliefs in particular, the needs of poor and middle-class children in Catholic schools, and the right to life of the baby in the womb, and cites legislation in New York that demonstrates this. The Cardinal notes that when conservative attendees listened to Annafi Wahed, a former staffer to Hillary Clinton, during a Conservative Political Action Conference, Wahed admitted in an article in the Journal that she would not have been given the same courtesy at a meeting of political liberals.

Editorial Wrap-Up

New York Times.

"Trump's Half-Baked China Tariffs." The [New York Times](#) (3/22, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) writes in an editorial that while Trump "is on solid ground when he accuses China of stealing American technology and pressuring foreign companies to hand over intellectual property to Chinese firms as a condition of doing business there," he "does not seem to know how to fix that pressing problem." Though he

"prides himself on being tough, especially on foreigners who he argues have been taking advantage of the United States," Trump "has displayed great weakness in dealing with other countries by fawning over autocrats," and has "reversed and contradicted himself so frequently that it can be impossible for not just adversaries, but even his own staff, to know what he stands for and what he is trying to achieve."

"Would You Want to Be Donald Trump's Lawyer?" The [New York Times](#) (3/22, Subscription Publication, 13.35M) editorializes that "Dowd resigned abruptly on Thursday, after concluding that Mr. Trump was increasingly ignoring his advice. Advice like, do not under any circumstances sit for an interview with the special counsel." Adds the Times, "Dowd, like any reasonably sentient person, knows there is no way that a conversation with Mr. Mueller would go well for the president," as "Trump doesn't have a relationship to the truth, but may at one point have had a fleeting affair with it, albeit one apparently covered by a nondisclosure agreement." The Times further predicts that "Dowd is the latest to flee Mr. Trump's legal team, but he won't be the last."

Washington Post.

"Fealty On The Dotted Line." The [Washington Post](#) (3/22, 15.96M) argues that for President Trump to try and "gag White House staff" by demanding signed confidentiality agreements, as was recently reported, is "completely unacceptable." The Post argues that "there is already a system in place" to keep sensitive government information secret, and that "the main motivator appears to be the president's ego and not the national interest." The editors call on Congressional government accountability committees to "stir themselves" and demand to see a copy of the agreements.

"Maryland's Ingenious Plan To Fix Obamacare." The [Washington Post](#) (3/22, 15.96M) editorializes that Maryland lawmakers can "lead the way" for states to fill the gap left by Congress' failure to provide adequate funding for the Affordable Care Act. The Post urges Maryland to create a "reinsurance" program for the state by charging insurance companies "an amount roughly equal to a tax break they received in the recent federal tax bill," then using that money to keep premiums down.

The state should then also apply a healthcare “down payment,” rather than a punitive fee, for tax payers who failed to buy coverage, in order to fix the “problem” of the removed federal mandate. The Post argues that Maryland should not “defer imposing such a plan until after this year’s elections,” but rather “embrace the opportunity” to show other states how to make the Affordable Care Act system work.

“Pragmatist Or Protectionist?” The [Washington Post](#) (3/22, 15.96M) editorializes that “one US administration after another has tried to get China to change, without success,” and asks, “Will...Trump succeed where his predecessors have failed?” The Post adds that “the pessimistic view of this – apparently prevalent on Wall Street on Thursday – is that Mr. Trump has started a growth-killing trade war,” but “a more hopeful view” is that his “action is a shock to the system, which might stimulate serious negotiations with the Chinese.” The Post concludes that “at some point soon,” Trump “must articulate clear and reasonable objectives, regarding both China and the allies – and then be willing to take ‘yes’ for an answer.”

Wall Street Journal.

“Trump’s China Tariffs.” In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/22, Subscription Publication, 6.8M) highlights the reaction to the announcement on Wall Street, and says the selloff came about because investors – as does the Journal – doubt the White House has a larger strategy (beyond tariffs) to tackle the trade issue. The Journal goes on to warn that tariffs will lead to untold damage for the US economy.

“John Bolton For National Security.” A [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/22, Subscription Publication, 6.8M) editorial praises Trump’s selection of Bolton, whose appointment it casts as sending a message to North Korea.

“Macron’s Biggest Reform Test.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/22, Subscription Publication, 6.8M) writes in an editorial that French President Emmanuel Macron must win in his current struggle with striking public railway and other works, in order to pass his reform agenda. Union members hope they can persuade the French public to take their side in their bid to protect funding for France’s beloved railways, but Macron must defeat them if he wants to implement his campaign promise to reform pensions and unemployment insurance

later this year. The Journal argues that Macron is right on policy merits, in addition to not being able to afford lose.

“Happy Bipartisan Budget Blowout Day.” In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (3/22, Subscription Publication, 6.8M) criticizes the amount of spending contained in the bill, and argues Republicans paid too stiff a price in the way to concessions to get Democratic support for their plan to hike military funding.

The Big Picture

Headlines From Today’s Front Pages.

Wall Street Journal:

[US To Apply Tariffs On Chinese Imports, Restrict Tech Deals](#)

[US Stocks Sell Off On Trade Concerns](#)

[McMaster To Depart NSA Post; Trump Taps Bolton For Job](#)

[Venezuela’s Maduro, Clinging To Power, Uses Hunger As An Election Weapon](#)

[Biggest Three Banks Gobble Up \\$2.4 Trillion In New Deposits Since Crisis](#)

New York Times:

[McMaster Is Out As National Security Adviser; Bolton Is In](#)

[Trump’s Lawyer For Russia Inquiry Quits As Advice Is Ignored](#)

[Trump Hits China On Trade But Lifts Steel Tariff For Allies](#)

[Students To March For Gun Control, And To Upend Elections](#)

[Macron Becomes France’s Answer To Strongman Populism](#)

Washington Post:

[Trump Pursues China Tariffs, Fuels Fears Of Trade War](#)

[Distant Shots Echo In A Gunmaking Capital](#)

[House Passes Budget Bill With Little Time To Read It](#)

[Facebook Played Down Ties To Analytica Figure](#)

[McMaster Is Out, Bolton Is In As Adviser](#)

Financial Times:

[Strikes Hit France As Unions Test Macron](#)

[Trump Tariffs Target Strategic Chinese Sectors](#)

[Jay Powell Plays It Safe In Federal Reserve Debut](#)

[Economists' Cryptocurrency Aims To Avoid Pitfalls Of Bitcoin](#)

Washington Times:

[H.R. McMaster Out As National Security Adviser; Trump Hires John Bolton](#)

[Congress Clears Massive Spending Bill In Midnight Vote](#)

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[NFL Owners' Social Justice Cash May Defuse Anthem Protests, May Not Satisfy Fans](#)

[In Departure For Hollywood, 'Chappaquiddick' Recalls Crash That Cast Shadow Over Camelot](#)

[All Sides Claim Victory On Spending Bill; No One Seems To Agree On What's In It](#)

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Trump Attorney Resignation; McMaster Ousted; WH-Trade Tariffs; Travis Air Force Base-Security Breach; Las Vegas Shooting-New Video; Sacramento Police Violence; Severe Weather; Austin Serial Bomber; Budget Bill Passes House; Native American-Baby Claim; Bridge Collapse-911 Calls; College Student Death; Manhole Explosion; Broadway Musical.

CBS: McMaster Ousted; WH-Trade Tariffs; Trade Tariffs-Responses; Atlanta-Cyber Attack; Travis Air Force Base-Security Breach; Budget Bill Passes House; Sacramento Police Violence; Austin Serial Bomber; Severe Weather-California; Severe Weather; Las Vegas Shooting-New Video; Florida High School-New Security Policy; Trump Attorney Resignation; Trump-Joe Biden Tweet; Police-Baby Rescue; Smart Dog.

NBC: WH-Trade Tariffs; McMaster Ousted; Trump Attorney Resignation; Sacramento Police Violence; Facebook CEO-Backlash; Severe Weather-California; Las Vegas Shooting-New Video; Guns-Red Flag Law; Austin Serial Bomber; Furniture Safety; Tractor Trailer Accident; Exercise Benefits; Artist Charity.

Network TV At A Glance:

WH-Trade Tariffs – 7 minutes, 25 seconds

Trump Attorney Resignation- 5 minutes, 40 seconds

Severe Weather- 4 minutes, 30 seconds

McMaster Ousted- 2 minutes, 25 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: McMaster Ousted; Trump Attorney Resignation; Trade Tariffs; Wall Street News; Budget Bill Passes House;

CBS: McMaster Ousted; Trade Tariffs; Wall Street News; Budget Bill Passes House; Austin Serial Bomber.

FOX: McMaster Ousted; Trade Tariffs; Budget Bill Passes House.

NPR: McMaster Ousted; Trump Attorney Resignation; Budget Bill Passes House; Trade Tariffs; Wall Street News.

Last Laughs

Late Night Political Humor.

Jimmy Kimmel: "Special regards to those of you who are on the East Coast huddled around the television for warmth tonight. ... Thousands of flights were canceled. Thousands without power in DC, mostly Democrats."

Trevor Noah: [Referring to the war of words between Joe Biden and Donald Trump] "First up, Donald Trump versus Joe Biden. And I don't mean 2020. I mean 3:00 p.m. after school. ... Personally, I have no idea who would win this fight. Biden seems scrappy, but if 70 years of McDonald's couldn't take Trump down, I don't know what can."

Jimmy Fallon: "To those of you keeping track at home, the President's friends are Vladimir Putin and Kim Jong-Un, and his enemies are Playboy bunnies and Joe Biden."

Jimmy Fallon: "It's crazy. Biden and Trump are threatening to beat each other up. It got even weirder when Bernie Sanders ripped off his shirt and yelled, 'Tag me in, let's do this thing! Come at me, bro!'"

Seth Meyers: "President Trump's lawyer for the Russia investigation, John Dowd, has resigned after concluding that Trump was ignoring his

advice. Apparently Dowd is the one who told Trump not to look directly at the eclipse."

Seth Meyers: "The head of New York's MTA said yesterday that there's a good chance public transit fares will rise next year. Also coming next year: your train."

Seth Meyers: "Wow. Following this presidency is like trying to binge-watch entire seasons of 'Days of Our Lives,' 'Law and Order,' and 'Survivor' on three screens at the same time."

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Sender:	Bulletin Intelligence <HHS@BulletinIntelligence.com>
Recipient:	<HHS@bulletinintelligence.com>
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From:	Bulletin Intelligence <HHS@BulletinIntelligence.com>
To:	<HHS@bulletinintelligence.com>
Subject:	HHS News Briefing for Monday, February 27, 2017
Date:	2017/02/27 07:37:51
Priority:	Normal
Type:	Note

HHS NEWS BRIEFING

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TO: THE SECRETARY AND SENIOR STAFF

DATE: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2017 7:30 AM EST

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Leading the News:

LEAKED GOP DRAFT REPLACEMENT PLAN WOULD REPEAL MOST IMPORTANT ACA PROVISIONS. Over the weekend, there was extensive coverage of a leaked draft GOP plan to replace the Affordable Care Act. Much of the coverage tended to be negative, highlighting the fact that the draft would eliminate the most important parts of the healthcare, and ultimately reduce the number of Americans with coverage.

In its lead story, [NBC Nightly News](#) (2/24, lead story, 2:45, Holt, 16.61M) reported that a leaked draft Republican healthcare proposal "obtained by NBC News calls for gutting the individual mandate, meaning no penalty for those who don't buy insurance," yet "if healthy people opt out, it

could drive up prices for the elderly and sick." The proposal also calls for eliminating subsidies and giving "tax credits that will be based on age instead of income," ending Medicaid expansion by "giving states the control to cover lower income patients with grants," and providing states with "money to create high-risk pools" so that people with pre-existing conditions can still obtain coverage.

The [Washington Post](#) (2/24, Goldstein, Eilperin, 11.43M) reported the House GOP's plan "would temporarily keep federal money flowing to cover almost the entire cost of people already insured through [Medicaid's] expansion under the Affordable Care Act, but would block the law's generous funding for any new participants." Meanwhile, the Post said the "approach would open a fresh spigot of aid for the 19 Republican-led states that eschewed the ACA's Medicaid money because of their leaders' antipathy to the law. This extra aid would probably go to hospitals with a large share of poor and uninsured patients."

[Politico](#) (2/24, Demko, 2.46M) , which broke the story, reported that the draft proposal "would take down the foundation of Obamacare, including the unpopular individual mandate, subsidies based on people's income, and all of the law's taxes." In addition, it would significantly reduce "Medicaid spending and give states money to create high risk pools for some people with pre-existing conditions."

Similarly, [The Hill](#) (2/24, Sullivan, 1.25M) reported that the draft measure "would dismantle the core aspects of the healthcare law and replace them with a system centered on a new tax credit" of \$2,000 to \$4,000, depending on people's age. It would include "\$10 billion per year in 'state innovation grants,' which are a version of high-risk pools but appear to allow for a broader array of uses for the money by states."

The [AP](#) (2/25, Fram) reported that the draft plan would "allow bigger contributions to personal health savings accounts, and impose a new levy on health coverage some employees get at work." According to the AP, the 105-page document "largely tracks talking points that House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., unveiled last summer and a similar outline that GOP leaders recently gave lawmakers." The piece added that the plan "provides some new details of Republican thinking and reaffirms others, such as blocking federal payments to Planned Parenthood for a year." Commenting on the draft, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) said, "This isn't a replacement, it's a recipe for disaster," while House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) stated, "The Republican bill raises families' costs, weakens coverage and pushes millions of Americans off of health coverage of any kind."

[Reuters](#) (2/24, Abutaleb) reported that GOP lawmakers have yet to reach consensus "on a single detailed policy proposal to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act." They must decide how to tackle several issues, including Medicaid, and how to pay for the new healthcare law. The article quoted HHS spokeswoman Caitlin Oakley as saying, "Obamacare has failed. We welcome any and all efforts to repeal and replace it that put patients first." In contrast, Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA) stated, "The deeply harmful path House Republicans have laid out would spell disaster for families nationwide. ... President Trump, who promised families he would provide insurance for everyone, should be the first to oppose it."

[McClatchy](#) (2/24, Pugh, Clark, 74K) reported that the draft "is drawing strong criticism from health care advocates and Democrats who say the proposal will irrevocably weaken the nation's health care system." The piece quoted Schumer as also saying, "It's no wonder Republicans are getting an earful back home from constituents who want them to turn back from their dangerous plan to make America sick again. The Republicans ought to rip this plan up and drop their reckless repeal effort." Meanwhile, the CEO of a healthcare firm warned that eliminating the Prevention and Public Health Fund, "which would blow a \$3 billion hole in state and local public health funding over the next five years and cost the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention nearly \$1 billion a year," would harm "the health of American children, families and communities."

[The Hill](#) (2/24, Seipel, 1.25M) reports in its "Blog Briefing Room" that during "a Friday night tweet storm," Sen. Chris Murphy (D-CT) "blasted the leaked Republican plans for repealing and replacing ObamaCare." The article said Murphy began "his 'rant' with a tweet saying, 'Let me count th[e] ways that the leaked GOP ACA repeal plan will totally, completely, monumentally screw you.'" He continued "with a series of tweets highlighting six parts of the draft ObamaCare repeal bill."

[Congressional Quarterly](#) (2/24, Mershon, Subscription Publication, 967) reported that the draft "is the first example of legislative text that closely tracks the overhaul outlines that House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Kevin Brady, R-Texas, and House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Greg Walden, R-Ore., gave lawmakers last week." While it provides some "key details about the policies Republicans are considering...those details could change."

Also covering the story were the [Daily Caller](#) (2/24, Brufke, 898K), the [Daily Intelligencer](#) (NY) (2/24, Kilgore, 795K), the [Huffington Post](#) (2/24, Cohn, 237K), the [New York Post](#) (2/24, Halper, 3.82M), the [NPR](#) (2/24, Kodjak, 1.92M) "Shots" blog, [Vanity Fair](#) (2/24, Tracy, 6.22M), [Vox](#) (2/25, Kliff, 1.15M), the [Washington Examiner](#) (2/24, Cunningham, 400K), and [Modern Healthcare](#) (2/24, Meyer, Subscription Publication, 241K).

Draft GOP Bill Would Defund Planned Parenthood. [The Hill](#) (2/24, Hellmann, 1.25M) reported that the draft bill "would defund Planned Parenthood, fulfilling" Republicans' "long-held goal cutting off federal money to the organization." The article pointed out that it remained "unclear how much of the draft legislation has changed since it was created Feb. 10, but Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) has promised to revoke funding from Planned Parenthood through the same bill that would repeal ObamaCare."

[Vox](#) (2/24, Crockett, 1.15M) reported that the draft bill also "threatens to dismantle the entire private insurance market for abortion coverage, not just public funding," and it "could effectively eliminate private insurance coverage of abortion."

GOP LEADERSHIP CONSIDERING FORCING REPUBLICAN MEMBERS TO VOTE AGAINST A STRAIGHT ACA REPEAL. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, A1, Radnofsky, Peterson, Armour, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports on its front page that Republican leaders are considering introducing a repeal of the ACA and forcing GOP opponents who want a replacement to vote against the proposal. The leadership's approach has been described as a now-or-never move. However, more moderate Republicans may torpedo the proposal due to the narrow margins they hold in the House and Senate, assuming the GOP gets no Democratic votes on the proposal.

[The Hill](#) (2/26, Hellmann, 1.25M) reports the GOP is grappling with how to address some of the more popular aspects of the ACA such as its protections for people with preexisting conditions. The GOP is considering shifting individuals with preexisting conditions to high-risk insurance pools. The GOP has claimed the inability to charge those individuals higher premiums as one reason why premiums have skyrocketed. Ryan Burt, an attorney who served as general counsel for Minnesota's high-risk pool, believes the Federal government will have to offer states funding to offset the cost of establishing the pools.

The Secretary in the News:

PRICE'S EXPERIENCE REPORTEDLY A "RELIEF" FOR RYAN. On its website, [CNN](#) (2/27, Mattingly, 29.79M) reports it is impossible to overstate how busy House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) is at the moment. He is working "with a new president who – even on his best days – refuses to stick to the script and has no trouble throwing party orthodoxy out the window. Many of the top staffers he has to work with in the new administration have no idea how Congress works." Yet, "there's also relief that people like Tom Price, the new secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services and a former Hill colleague, are in the administration and can keep things on track."

GOP GOVERNORS REPORTEDLY WORKING ON HEALTHCARE PROPOSAL. [The Hill](#) (2/25, Sullivan, 1.25M) said Nevada Gov. Brian Sandoval told reporters following the National Governors Association's winter conference on Saturday that "Republican governors are working on a healthcare proposal to present to Congress and the administration as the ObamaCare debate moves forward," although he "did not provide a timeline for when the proposal will be ready." The article pointed out, however, that when asked if HHS Secretary Tom Price "expressed openness to keeping the Medicaid expansion" at the summit, "Sandoval said, 'I wouldn't assume that.'"

The [Las Vegas Review-Journal](#) (2/25, Martin, 676K) reported that 31 states, including Nevada, expanded "Medicaid programs to take advantage of federal funds to help insure more elderly and poor." Lawmakers in those states are now worried "about how the federal government will continue its funding commitment for the expanded programs."

ANGRY VOTERS VOICE ANTI-TRUMP PROTESTS DURING TOWN HALLS. The [Los Angeles Times](#) (2/24, Lauter, 4.52M) reported that while congressional lawmakers were home for recess, "town halls around the country became the focus of anti-Trump protests." The piece wondered if this anti-Trump sentiment will "energize voters, as the tea party did, or serve as an ultimately impotent expression of rage." The article added that one "clue could come from a special election to be held this spring in" Atlanta's suburbs, which will determine the winner of HHS Secretary Tom Price's former seat. Price prevailed in "his district several times with little trouble, but Democrats never made much of an effort against him."

NEW REPORT CONCLUDES REPEAL OF ACA COULD SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE FEDERAL FUNDING FOR MEDICAID AND PRIVATE INSURANCE. The [AP](#) (2/26, Nuckols, Alonzo-Zaldivar) reports repealing the Affordable Care Act could "create funding gaps for states and threaten many people with the loss of insurance coverage," according to a new report prepared by Avalere Health and McKinsey & Company. The report concluded that the changes currently under considering by Republicans in the House could significantly reduce federal funding for Medicaid and private insurance. The article also mentions that Secretary of Health and Human Services Tom Price met privately with governors on Saturday to discuss healthcare reform.

Zika Virus News:

DC'S ZIKA LAB DIAGNOSTIC ERROR CAUSED BY BASIC MISTAKE. In an over 1,900 word front-page article, the [Washington Post](#) (2/25, A1, Davis, 11.43M) reported that "with help from analysts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention," Anthony Tran, the director of the DC Public Health Laboratory, discovered the District failed to accurately diagnose the Zika virus due to "a mistake that any high school chemistry student could understand." According to the Post, Tran said that the DC lab mistakenly watered down a diluted solution over a period of six months before the mistake was recognized.

WPost: DC Needs "Thorough Review" To Guarantee Testing Integrity After Zika Debacle. In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (2/24, 11.43M) criticizes the District of Columbia for "incorrectly" telling the nine pregnant women that they did not have the Zika virus "and to scores more who are now anxiously awaiting the results of retesting to determine if they too had been misinformed." The Post calls for "a thorough review to determine what led to the mistakes and to guarantee the integrity of future testing," particularly because so far "it appears the District is the only jurisdiction in the country to have experienced problems with its testing." The Post concludes "it is critical that additional information about the inaccurate testing be provided to the public and support given to anyone proven to have suffered harm because of the faulty testing."

CLIMATE CHANGE AND HUMAN TRAVEL RESPONSIBLE FOR ZIKA VIRUS EPIDEMIC. [Huffington Post](#) (2/24, Almendrala, 237K) "Healthy Living" editor Anna Almendrala reported that "in the case of the Zika virus epidemic, scientists suspect that rising global temperatures

contributed to the spread of the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito that transmits the disease." In addition, she says "human beings' globetrotting travel patterns also give viruses a boost."

HHS in the News:

FORMER CMS CHIEF DATA OFFICER DISCUSSES TRANSPARENCY, FUTURE OF HEALTHCARE. In an interview with [Politico](#) (2/24, Allen, 2.46M) Niall Brennan, former chief data officer for CMS, shared his "thoughts about his data transparency efforts at CMS, and the future of value-based care." He suggested, "We've come too far on delivery system repair to go back. MACRA was a bipartisan bill. [HHS Secretary] Tom Price and many other GOP and Democratic senators and congressmen voted for it. I would be very disappointed and fearful for the sustainability of our health care system if major steps were taken to unravel value-based care."

WOMEN ARE MORE LIKELY TO BECOME ADDICTED TO ALCOHOL THAN IN THE PAST, REVIEW SUGGESTS. The [Washington Post](#) (2/26, Lissner, 11.43M) reports women's use of alcohol and their risk of becoming addicted to alcohol have both increased in recent decades, according to a recent review and analysis of 68 studies on alcohol use published last year. The Australian researchers who conducted the review described the trend as a "gender convergence" with the difference in alcohol use between men and women shrinking in recent decades. George Koob, the director of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, said in an interview, "It's presumably [caused by] all the factors associated with women having a different culture than they did 100 years ago. Instead of being at home, they're in society, and drinking is part of business and social gatherings. Another issue that's relevant, there has been a decline in underage drinking in men that is not happening with women." Koob also said that "alcohol use tends to escalate more quickly" in women than men.

RESEARCHERS SAY THAT SEX DIFFERENCES IN MODEL ORGANISMS ARE BECOMING MORE APPARENT. [The Scientist](#) (2/24, Krisch, 151K) reports "sex differences in model organisms are becoming increasingly apparent." The article points out that NIH Director Francis Collins "threw a spotlight on the problem of male mouse bias in preclinical trials" in 2014, and that the NIH later changed their policy on the sexes of model organisms used in research. Janine Austin Clayton, the director of the NIH's Office of Research on Women's Health, said in an email to [The Scientist](#), "Many scientists in the past assumed that the differences between males and females were often irrelevant. As such, there was an overreliance on male animals and cells, inattention to sex effects, and inconsistent reporting of sex-specific findings in publications."

COMMENT: GVAP MIDTERM REPORT REVEALS ENCOURAGING TRENDS BUT ALSO CHALLENGES. In a comment published in [The Lancet](#) (2/25, Chan, Elias, Fauci, Lake, Berkley, 5K) five authors, including Anthony Fauci, the director of the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases, wrote that the Global Vaccine Action Plan midterm report "reveals encouraging national and regional trends in vaccine coverage," but there are still major challenges. The comment says that all of the GVAP's targets are "behind schedule," and that "in almost every country, some population groups have limited access to vaccines."

CDC: DRUG OVERDOSE DEATH RATE HAS INCREASED OVER 2.5 TIMES SINCE 1999. [USA Today](#) (2/24, Rossman, 5.28M) reported that the US drug overdose death rate has increased over 2.5 times between 1999 and 2015 to 16.3 per 100,000 people, according to data released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. According to the data, "overdose deaths afflict middle-aged adults and white people the most," although drug overdose deaths "ticked up for every age group."

Additional coverage is provided by [CNN](#) (2/24, Kounang, 29.79M).

OPINION: CMS PROPOSAL TO LIMIT OPIOIDS RISKS HARM TO PATIENTS. In an opinion piece for [STAT](#) (2/24, Kertesz, Gordon), Stefan G. Kertesz, MD, associate professor of preventive medicine at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine, and Adam J. Gordon,

MD, professor of medicine at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and editor of the journal Substance Abuse, write that a proposal by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services “to enforce hard limits on opioid dosing” is based on “untested” logic and could “likely promote the use of heroin or other drugs.” They argue that “pain patients currently taking opioids long-term have become involuntary participants in an experiment, with their lives at stake.” Kertesz and Gordon write that statements like those made by CDC Director Dr. Tom Frieden, who said opioid pain medications “are just as addictive as heroin,” actually “buttress a fantasy that the tragedy of opioid overdoses and deaths will be solved in doctors’ offices” by “upending the care of 5 to 8 million Americans who receive opioids for pain.” Kertesz and Gordon “agree wholeheartedly” with Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy, who said, “We cannot allow the pendulum to swing to the other extreme here, where we deny people who need opioid medications those actual medications. ... We are trying to find an appropriate middle ground.”

OPINION: THE FDA ISN'T BROKEN. In an opinion piece for [Morning Consult](#) (2/24), Wayne Pines, the former associate commissioner of the FDA, writes that “the most knowledgeable observers and participants in the drug development and approval process acknowledge that FDA does a good job of setting reasonable standards for testing and makes good judgments in evaluating the data and deciding which drugs should be marketed and what diseases they have been shown to treat.” Pines says the criticism that the FDA takes too long “is no longer credible” because the agency “can and does expedite the approval of truly important new drugs.” Pines concludes, “the FDA ain't broke, and it doesn't need much fixin'.”

PHARMA GROUPS FILE PETITION ASKING FDA TO DELAY OFF-LABEL MARKETING RULE. In ongoing coverage of the FDA's final rule that affects “intended use” of medicines, [STAT](#) (2/24, Silverman) reports that three pharma groups filed a petition “in a fit of anger” at the FDA, urging the agency “to delay a final rule giving the agency greater leeway to police off-label marketing.” In the final rule floated in January, the FDA said “drug makers must update product labeling if there is evidence indicating a company intended its medicine to be used off-label, or for an unapproved use.” The final rule was unexpected, according to the petition from PhRMA, BIO, and the Medical Information Working Group (MIWG), and it “gives the FDA an extraordinarily wide berth to gauge how a company intended its medicine to be used, which can then be used to assess whether illegal promotion occurred.”

HHS' IT INITIATIVES FACE “STEADILY DECREASING” BUDGET. [Federal Computer Week](#) (2/24, Wiedemann, 263K) reported technology changes at the Department of Health and Human Services will include updates to the CMS and the FDA cloud systems, as well as the addition of “Platform-as-a-Service cloud applications” to the National Institutes of Health. The article reports that these “lofty goals” aim to fall within the “steadily decreasing” IT budget for HHS. The article said, “The shift away from development, modernization and enhancement funding to steady state funding” echoes “trends elsewhere across the government” such as CMS' Hospital Quality Reporting program, which focuses on “streamlining the design, development, operation and maintenance of four different information technology systems.” Among departments' various initiatives are HHS' “hopes to use cloud technology to improve customer care and service as a way to address a decreasing IT budget overall.”

ESSAY URGES WITHDRAWAL OF FDA REGULATIONS ON ABORTION PILL. The [Los Angeles Times](#) (2/24, Healy, 4.52M) reported an essay published in the New England Journal of Medicine asserts the FDA's restrictions on mifepristone for abortions “no longer makes clinical sense,” and must be “expeditiously withdrawn.” The authors argued that following “sixteen years of overregulation,” it is “time to unburden Mifeprex.”

Health Reform:

ANALYSIS SUGGESTS GOP'S ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN COULD COVER FEWER AMERICANS. The [Washington Post](#) (2/25, Balz, 11.43M) reported that according to an analysis prepared by Avalere Health for the National Governors Association, a GOP plan to replace the

Affordable Care Act “could significantly reduce the number of Americans with health insurance and potentially cost states billions of dollars over five years.” The document, which was presented to the governors on Saturday, “attempts to evaluate the impact of possible changes included in a Republican leadership plan that outlines the direction Congress could be heading in as it attempts to fulfill President Trump’s promise to repeal and replace Obamacare.”

[Bloomberg Politics](#) (2/24, Edney, 201K) reported that the possibility of fewer people being covered is “likely to increase blowback amid growing support for” the ACA. While lawmakers continue to work out the details of the plan, “it would do away with the Affordable Care Act’s requirement that all Americans have health coverage or pay a fine, and replace it with rules that let people choose not to buy insurance, instead paying higher premiums or penalties if they need it later.” As a result, fewer people would have healthcare coverage. Rep. Dennis Ross (R-FL) said, “Not everybody is going to have health care – some people just don’t care enough about their own care.” He added that the GOP “can provide people access to affordable insurance plans, but whether they take it or not is like trying to legislate responsibility.”

The [Washington Examiner](#) (2/26, Feldscher, 400K) reports that the outline which governors received on Saturday “showed the number of people receiving coverage through Obamacare would drop as much as 51 percent in states that didn’t expand Medicaid coverage, and 30 percent in those that did.”

A separate [Bloomberg Politics](#) (2/25, Tracer, 201K) article reported that according to a “hypothetical example presented, a state that didn’t expand Medicaid and had 235,000 enrollees in Obamacare through the individual market would see the number of participants fall to 115,000.” In the example of a state which “did expand Medicaid coverage and had 300,000 enrollees in the individual market, the number would drop to 210,000.” Furthermore, the state which expanded Medicaid “could see further losses in Medicaid, where another 115,000 would probably lose eligibility, without being able to find an affordable replacement plan.”

DEMOCRATIC, GOP GOVERNORS AT ODDS OVER MEDICAID REFORM DURING MEETING. The [AP](#) (2/25, Nuckols) reported, “Tensions emerged Saturday between Democratic and Republican U.S. governors over a GOP-led proposal for a major overhaul to Medicaid,” as Washington Gov. Jay Inslee, Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe, and other Democrats asserted that the changes endorsed by their GOP counterparts “would take away people’s health coverage to finance tax cuts for the wealthy.” But Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin “said if Democrats were disturbed, they haven’t been paying attention,” and Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey “said Democrats are failing to acknowledge the shortcomings of Obama’s health law and the need for urgent reforms.”

[McClatchy](#) (2/25, Douglas, 74K) pointed out that they hold office in just 16 states, so the Democratic governors are in “an unusually weakened position” as they begin “gearing up for a fight” to protect their Medicaid expansions.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/25, Radnofsky, Hackman, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reported that following the meeting, the governors said they had not been able to reach an agreement regarding Medicaid, which is a problem that is also hindering congressional Republicans’ efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act. The article pointed out that GOP lawmakers in the House, Senate and the states remain at odds over various issues, especially Medicaid.

On its website, [CNN Money](#) (2/24, Luhby, 3.59M) reported that the governors planned to debate issues related to efforts to repealing and replacing the ACA during the meeting, and then meet with President Trump and Congress on Monday. The piece also pointed out that it is becoming more evident that “what happens to Obamacare will not be decided solely in Washington D.C.,” given that thousands are defending the healthcare law during town hall meetings, “while others are demanding their representatives give them a voice in the discussion.”

GOP GOVERNORS WANT SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO MEDICAID. The [AP](#) (2/24, Beaumont, Alonso-Zaldivar) reported that several GOP governors “are calling for dramatic changes to Medicaid, which provides insurance to more than 70 million low-income Americans,” and are warning Republican lawmakers not to “scrap the Affordable Care Act without a viable alternative,” according to “a draft of the proposal obtained by” the AP. These governors intended “to present their proposal at their annual meeting in Washington on Saturday.” The AP pointed out, “At the heart of the document is concern among Republican governors they would bear the consequences if Congress scraps the health care law, shifting costs to the states, and jeopardizing coverage for millions of people who gained it under Obamacare’s expansion.”

[Politico](#) (2/25, Pradhan, Ehley, 2.46M) reported that like congressional lawmakers, GOP governors “are split over an Obamacare replacement plan.” They are divided over “whether to ask Congress to preserve the federal funding boost Obamacare made available to cover millions of additional low-income adults and broader structural changes.”

[McClatchy](#) (2/24, Cockerham, 74K) reported that some 11 million Americans gained coverage to healthcare access thanks to Medicaid expansion under the ACA. The governors of the 31 states which expanded Medicaid said they would discuss the possible negative impact repealing the ACA could have on these recipients’ coverage. Ohio Gov. John Kasich “has called repealing the Medicaid expansion ‘a very, very bad idea.’”

[The Hill](#) (2/24, Sullivan, 1.25M) reported that many congressional lawmakers from states which expanded Medicaid want to preserve that ACA provision, yet “they are at odds with conservatives and Republicans from states that rejected the expansion, who are pushing for full repeal.” The piece pointed out that it will be difficult “for any repeal and replace bill to pass Congress unless Republicans can bridge that divide, and they are looking to the governors, who help run Medicaid as a joint federal-state program, for help.”

The [Washington Examiner](#) (2/25, King, 400K) and the [Huntsville \(TX\) Item](#) (2/26, Murakami, 21K) also covered the story.

In Contrast To Earlier Stance, Wisconsin Governor Insists Medicaid Should Not Be Cut. The [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#) (2/24, Stein, 513K) reported that just last year, Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker (R) “was calling strongly for a shift to a so-called block grant model.” But on Friday, he “seemed to back off block grants, which would be a big change for a program that covers more than 1 million needy Wisconsinites.” Walker said, “You can’t cut Medicaid. There’s just no way about it.”

[Newsweek](#) (2/24, Cadei, 862K) reported that this “was not a statement one would expect to come out of the mouth of one of America’s most vocal enemies of ‘big government’ and public sector spending.” Walker explained that Medicaid “is ‘the biggest growing part of most states’ budgets.” He added that governors want to help congressional “Republicans restructure Medicaid and ‘slow...the growth curve’ in costs.”

GRASS-ROOTS ACTIVISM REPORTEDLY HELPING DEMS FIGHT EFFORTS TO REPEAL ACA. The [Washington Post](#) (2/25, Debonis, Weigel, 11.43M) reported that several years after the Affordable Care Act was passed, “Democrats seem finally to have secured a crucial element for its preservation: a robust grass-roots movement supporting it.” This “surge in activism” helps congressional Democrats take on their Republican counterparts who are “prepar[ing] to take their next steps toward repealing the ACA...and replacing it with what they say will be a more free-market-oriented system that is expected to cost the government less but cover fewer Americans.” The article pointed out that hitherto, “conservative activists have occupied the spotlight and relentlessly pushed Republicans to undo Obamacare, while Democrats and liberal groups largely stayed on the sidelines.”

Commentator Credits Progressive Activism With Increase In ACA’s Popularity. Steve

Benen wrote in an [MSNBC](#) (2/24, 8.33M) piece that during an event in Florida, former House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) said the GOP is unlikely to succeed in repealing the Affordable Care Act. Boehner said he believes the ACA will "remain largely intact, despite Republican dominance." Benen pointed out that as recently as November, most people were convinced that the GOP would easily repeal the ACA, but because of progressive activism by the public, the healthcare law's popularity is growing.

TRUMP ADVISER SAYS ADMINISTRATION'S ACA REPLACEMENT PLAN WILL BE READY IN MARCH. On [Fox News Sunday](#) (2/26, Wallace), Trump adviser Corey Lewandowski said of President Trump's plans to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, "In his press conference, the President said by the second or third week in March he will have a plan up on the Hill, they are going to be working on this to make sure that there is a unified component so that people can actually have health care coverage." Lewandowski added, "The President's been very clear about this, he has a giant heart. What he said was, 'We're not going to throw people on the street, we're going to take care of people.' But you have to do it in a manner that does not have increases of 100 plus percent so that people cannot cover themselves anymore."

PELOSI SAYS GOP LACKS PLAN AND VOTES TO REPEAL ACA. On [ABC's This Week](#) (2/26, Stephanopolous, 6.61M), House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) criticized Republicans over their discussion of a plan to repeal and replace the ACA. She said, "They've come up with nothing. They say repeal and replace. That has alliteration. That's all it has going for it. They don't have a replacement. What they have put forth and outlined will cost more to consumers. It will cover fewer people. It will give tax breaks to the wealthiest people."

The [Washington Times](#) (2/26, Richardson, 272K) reports that according to Pelosi, GOP lawmakers will not repeal the ACA "because they don't have the votes and have not come up with a sufficient replacement plan." She asked during the ABC interview, "How can they do it? They don't have the votes."

The [Washington Examiner](#) (2/24, King, 400K) also quoted Pelosi as saying, "While Republicans hide from their constituents, they are moving down an increasingly cruel path to raise taxes on middle-class families and dismantle Americans' right to affordable health care." Meanwhile, House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD) "called the plan 'glaringly dangerous.'"

GOVERNORS SAY HEALTHCARE WAS A KEY TOPIC DURING MEETING WITH TRUMP. On [Fox News Sunday](#) (2/26, Wallace), Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker (R) was asked what was a key topic during President Trump's meeting with governors during their annual meeting in Washington. Walker responded, "Health care. As governors, we want to personalize patient-centered health care. Not like a number, but human being. And I think that is a common sense. The President talked and was very interested in that." The [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#) (2/26, Johnson, 513K) reports that during the interview, Walker praised his "state's program for health insurance coverage for the poor...calling it 'a model of exactly what will happen' under plans to replace Obamacare."

Later on [Fox News Sunday](#) (2/26, Wallace), Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D) similarly suggested healthcare was a top issue for the nation's governors during their annual meeting. He said, "My concern going forward is if we just eliminate the ACA, the cost of the Virginia budget is \$200 million per year. I lose \$157 million in pharmaceutical reimbursements right off the bat. So I'm very concerned about how we do this going forward."

ANALYSIS CONCLUDES GOP ACA PROPOSALS MAY COST STATES \$32 BILLION. [Reuters](#) (2/24, Russ) reported the "left-leaning" Center on Budget and Policy Priorities released an analysis on Friday which found "proposals in Congress that would effectively end Medicaid expansion in 31 U.S. states" by changing the current Federal payment model to block grants "would cost those states at least \$32 billion altogether in 2019." Some Republicans have proposed replacing Federal Medicaid funding with block grants, yet "that would dramatically affect

the 31 states and the District of Columbia that chose to expand" the program under the ACA. The analysis concluded that these 31 "states would have to find the extra \$32 billion themselves to maintain their expansions."

ARKANSAS GOVERNOR URGES REPUBLICANS TO ADDRESS CONCERNS RAISED AT TOWN HALLS. [Politico](#) (2/24, Quigley, 2.46M) reported that Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson (R) "said Friday that Republicans should pay attention to the hostile town hall meetings across the country as many voters express anxiety and concern about repeal of the Affordable Care Act." At Politico's seventh annual State Solutions Conference, Hutchinson cautioned that the unrest "portends what could happen down the road with increased intensity if we don't handle healthcare right, if we don't handle all of the promises that we've indicated we want to work on right."

VOTERS WHO SUPPORT GOP LAWMAKERS ARE INSISTING THAT THEY REPEAL ACA. [McClatchy](#) (2/24, Clark, 74K) reported that in recent days, congressional Republicans were confronted by angry voters who demanded that they not support the GOP's plans to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. Yet, those who voted for these lawmakers are also "delivering their own message: Ignore the rabble-rousers and fulfill your campaign promise to repeal Obamacare." The article pointed out new polls are showing the ACA "is more popular than it's ever been," which means "Republicans who have long vowed to dismantle it find themselves in a tight spot."

CONGRESS RETURNING FROM RECESS TO TACKLE ACA REPLACEMENT LEGISLATION. The [AP](#) (2/27, Werner) reports that congressional lawmakers are returning from recess "this week to confront dramatic decisions on health care and the Supreme Court that might help determine the course of Donald Trump's presidency." GOP lawmakers "insist they are working closely with the new administration as they prepare to start taking votes on health legislation, with the moment finally upon them to make good on seven years of promises to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act." The article says House Republicans are hoping to approve an ACA replacement bill "by early April and send it to the Senate, with action there also possible before Easter," yet "land mines await."

GOP LAWMAKERS REPORTEDLY STUCK BETWEEN TRUMP, ANGRY VOTERS. The [AP](#) (2/25, Lerer, Beaumont) reported that just a few weeks into Donald Trump's presidency, Republicans "find themselves squeezed between a polarizing president and hundreds of angry voters flooding their Capitol Hill phone lines, protesting at their offices and shouting them down at rowdy town halls." These protests have "left some Republicans wary, complicating Trump's ability to get his agenda through Congress and raising the possibility that midterm elections that should favor the GOP may end up being far more challenging." The article says many of the protesters are demanding that their representatives not support GOP efforts to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act. And, with recent polls indicating growing support for the ACA, "Republican lawmakers are struggling to respond to constituents worried about losing their coverage, even as an energized GOP base demands a swift – and complete – repeal."

SEN. SCOTT'S TOWN HALL ROWDY AT TIMES, BUT DID NOT BECOME A SHOUTING MATCH. [Reuters](#) (2/25, McLeod) reported that Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC) "faced a quandary on Saturday in hosting his town hall: he promised to meet with his South Carolina constituents, but he wanted to avoid the kind of adversarial free-for-all so many Republicans encountered this week." While Scott took "precautions, arguments broke out and constituents told one another to shut up." Still, the meeting "never degenerated into an all-out shouting match." During the event, one woman discussed how the Affordable Care Act had "saved" her family from about \$2 million in medical bills. She said the ACA "is imperfect but it is a good law," to which Scott responded that the ACA "is not sustainable."

GOP LAWMAKER SAYS TOWN HALL PROTESTS COULD PREVENT COMPLETE REPEAL OF ACA. [The Hill](#) (2/24, Greenwood, 1.25M) reported that on Thursday, Rep. Mo Brooks (R-AL) said the growing number of protests "at GOP town hall meetings could stop Republican

lawmakers from fully repealing the Affordable Care Act." Brooks stated during an interview, "I don't know if we're going to be able to repeal Obamacare now because these folks who support Obamacare are very active." He added, "You might see something where they call it a repeal but really it's an amendment."

GROUPS URGING LAWMAKERS TO PRESERVE ACA REPORTEDLY RECEIVING LITTLE FUNDING. [Politico](#) (2/24, Pradhan, 2.46M) reported that despite the growing number of protests by Affordable Care Act supporters at town hall meetings, "high-rollers aren't stepping up to write checks to defend the law and possibly turn voter outrage over losing coverage into a sustainable movement." The article pointed out that without such funding, "the smaller progressive organizations left could be hard-pressed to fight a long battle as conservatives spend heavily to pressure lawmakers to finish off the law and, possibly, revamp Medicaid." The piece added that funding for the ACA "began slowing not long after the law was passed."

SEN. COTTON HIGHLIGHTS IMPORTANCE OF GOP SOLUTIONS TO HEALTHCARE PROBLEMS. On [NBC's Meet the Press](#) (2/26, Todd, 5.27M), Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR) said of Republican efforts to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, "We have to get health care right. Our health care system has had problems going back decades and Obamacare didn't solve them and it didn't because the access to doctors is still strained." Cotton added, "What we saw over this past week is anxiety and stress that Americans feel about health care. I know families that have been helped by Obamacare that feel that anxiety and stress and I know families that have been hurt by it and health care is a stressful thing and when we repeal Obamacare we have to get it right and we have to make sure that our solutions deliver personalized care for all Americans that they have control, choice and freedom over their health care."

TRUMP DISCUSSES ACA WITH WISCONSIN, FLORIDA GOVERNORS. [The Hill](#) (2/25, Fabian, 1.25M) reported that President Trump on Saturday had lunch with Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker (R) and Florida Gov. Rick Scott (R). They "discussed 'how best to solve the problems of ObamaCare, with a special emphasis on the states' role in healthcare,' according to the White House."

SOME REPUBLICANS MULLING HIGH-RISK POOLS DUE TO DIFFICULTY OF REPLACING ACA'S PRE-EXISTING CONDITION MANDATE. The [AP](#) (2/25, Johnson, Alonso-Zaldivar) reported that as GOP lawmakers attempt "to unite around a replacement for the Affordable Care Act, one of the most popular parts of the law will be among the most difficult to replace: the guarantee of health coverage for people with pre-existing conditions." As a result, some Republicans in Congress are mulling whether to ask states to re-establish high-risk pools. One healthcare expert observed, "It's definitely a hand-off to the states."

ANTHEM TAKING LEAD DURING INDUSTRY MEETINGS WITH TRUMP ADMINISTRATION. [Reuters](#) (2/27, Humer) reports health insurance companies "complained to the White House for more than a year that they were losing money on people who waited to sign up for Obamacare coverage until they were sick." They asked the Obama Administration to tighten enrollment rules, but the government took no action, and as a result, several large insurers exited individual marketplaces. The article says "now that the new Trump administration and Republican lawmakers control the future of healthcare, the industry is getting a new hearing." The piece points out that Anthem Inc. – "the last national insurer playing big in the Obamacare market – is the loudest industry voice in meetings with policymakers who all have pledged to" repeal the Affordable Care Act.

MEDICAL CENTERS FEAR OBAMACARE REPEAL WILL REDUCE REVENUE, HURT PATIENT CARE. [Kaiser Health News](#) (2/24, Gorman, 2K) reports some medical centers worry "that if patients lose health insurance" when Republicans repeal Obamacare, "their revenue will fall – to the detriment of the patients, the hospital staff and the community." The California Hospital Association agreed in a February letter which warned that repealing Obamacare "without replacing it 'would upend the financial stability of hospitals and their patients.'"

TRUMP TO MEET WITH HEALTH INSURANCE EXECUTIVES ABOUT ACA REPEAL. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/24, Armour, Mathews, Hackman, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reported President Trump on Monday plans to meet with health insurance executives at the White House to discuss repealing the Affordable Care Act and outline Republican drafted replacement measures. The President and Health and Human Services Secretary Price are expected to meet with the CEOs of Aetna Inc, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina, Cigna Corp., Kaiser Permanente, and UnitedHealth Group Inc., among others, according to the Journal.

[Bloomberg News](#) (2/24, Edney, Tracer, 2.41M) reported Republican House lawmakers are working on a strategy to repeal and replace the ACA, but they "acknowledge that their current proposal will cover fewer people." Many for-profit health insurers have "pulled back from Obamacare, opting to stop selling coverage in many markets."

[Reuters](#) (2/24, Humer) reported insurers are seeking changes to the individual market starting in 2018 that would "make the market more attractive to the industry," as some plans have "lost hundreds of millions of dollars because member costs were higher than they expected."

[CNN Money](#) (2/26, Luhby, 3.59M), [Congressional Quarterly](#) (2/24, Subscription Publication, 967) and [The Hill](#) (2/25, Greenwood, 1.25M) also cover the planned meeting.

PRESIDENT TRUMP SPEAKS AT CPAC ABOUT REPEALING THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT.

[U.S. News & World Report](#) (2/24, Leonard, 1.02M) reported President Donald Trump spoke at CPAC about the Affordable Care Act. Trump said that letting the law would implode would be the best strategy from a "purely political standpoint," but that such an approach would not be "the right thing to do for the American people." The [Daily Caller](#) (2/24, Donachie, 898K) reported Trump said during his speech that the law would be "repealed and replaced" in the coming year.

In an analysis, [Politico](#) (2/24, Conway, 2.46M) reported that during his speech at CPAC, Trump "falsely claimed" that the Affordable Care Act "covers very few people." Politico reports that an estimated 20 million people have gained healthcare coverage under the law.

FORMER TRUMP ADVISER SAYS HOUSE SPEAKER SHOULD BE REPLACED IF ACA IS NOT REPLACED. [The Hill](#) (2/26, Shelbourne, 1.25M) reports Betsy McCaughey, a former economic adviser to President Trump's campaign, said that House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) should be replaced if he fails to lead Congress to replace the Affordable Care Act. McCaughey said on a radio show in New York that "Paul Ryan isn't doing his job. If he can't do his job as Speaker, to hold these Republicans together and get a repeal and replace bill through, somebody else should be Speaker."

REP. JORDAN SAYS REPUBLICANS "BETTER HAVE THE VOTES" TO REPEAL THE ACA AS PROMISED. [The Hill](#) (2/26, Shelbourne, 1.25M) reports Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH) said on ABC's "This Week" program that Republicans in Congress "better have the votes" to repeal the Affordable Care Act, because Republicans promised the American people to repeal the law. Jordan said, "We told them we were going to repeal it and replace it with a market-centered, patient-centered plan that actually brings back affordable health insurance."

The [Washington Examiner](#) (2/26, Feldscher, 400K) also covers the story and notes that Jordan is the founder of the House Freedom Caucus.

SOME NEW HAMPSHIRE RESIDENTS CONCERNED ABOUT POTENTIAL LOSS OF COVERAGE IF ACA REPEALED. [Seacoast Online \(NH\)](#) (2/26, Barndollar, 47K) reports some New Hampshire residents are concerned about potentially losing their healthcare coverage if the Affordable Care Act is repealed. The article reports that some New Hampshire Republicans

including Gov. Chris Sununu are advocating for federal legislation that would give states more flexibility to keep the parts of the law they like while repealing those they dislike.

COLUMN: SICKEST REGIONS OF WASHINGTON WOULD LOSE THE MOST IF ACA REPEALED. Gene Balk writes in his “FYI Guy” column in the [Seattle Times](#) (2/24, Balk, 1.05M) that the sickest regions of Washington state would be affected the most if the Affordable Care Act is repealed. Balk says that the rural areas of the state with the highest percentage of people receiving healthcare coverage under the Affordable Care Act are the same areas with “the highest rates of death from medical conditions among people under 65.”

REP. BROOKS SAYS CONGRESS MAY LACK COURAGE TO REPEAL AFFORDABLE CARE ACT. The [Huntsville \(AL\) Times](#) (2/24, Gattis, 127K) reported Rep. Mo Brooks (R-GA) said that Congress may lack the courage to repeal the Affordable Care Act. Brooks said that protests at constituent town hall meetings may cause some Republicans to back away from campaign promises to repeal the law.

The [Washington Examiner](#) (2/24, King, 400K) reported Brooks said on a radio program, “Across the country I see a lot of weak-kneed Republicans right now, particularly on the Senate side but also on the House side.”

FLORIDA INSURER APOLOGIZES TO PATIENTS FACING PROBLEMS WITH ACA PLAN. The [Orlando \(FL\) Sentinel](#) (2/24, Miller, 684K) reported Florida Blue, an insurer that sold plans on the Affordable Care Act exchange, has apologized to customers who have had issues with some of the insurer’s plans. The insurer issued a statement on Thursday saying, “We appreciate the patience our members have shown as we manage a high volume of customer interactions and as we work to help people who have experienced problems.”

KASICH MEETS WITH TRUMP TO DISCUSS MEDICAID EXPANSION, HEALTHCARE REFORM. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/24, Radnofsky, 6.37M) reported President Trump met with Ohio Gov. John Kasich on Friday at the White House to discuss healthcare. Kasich said, “He listened very carefully to what I have to say about” Medicaid reform and the repeal of the Affordable Care Act. The [CBS Evening News](#) (2/24, story 9, 0:25, Pelley, 11.17M) broadcast Kasich, Trump’s primary opponent who “refused to endorse him or vote for him,” saying, “It’s sort of like being on an airplane – you want to root for the pilot.”

Other outlets covering Kasich’s visit include the [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#) (2/24, 976K), [Columbus \(OH\) Dispatch](#) (2/24, 529K), [Toledo \(OH\) Blade](#) (2/25, 208K), and [The Hill](#) (2/24, Vladimirov, 1.25M).

RHODE ISLAND SENDS OUT WRONG TAX FORMS TO HEALTHSOURCE RI CUSTOMERS. The [Providence \(RI\) Journal](#) (2/24, Bogdan, 386K) reported Rhode Island announced, on the same day the state “reached a settlement in a class-action lawsuit over problems with its beleaguered public-benefits computer system,” it also “mailed thousands of faulty tax forms to customers as a result of another coding problem.” The Journal says that by “sending out some 3,000 incorrect tax forms to HealthSource RI customers,” those who have already filed their tax returns may be required to amend their filings. The state said as of Friday afternoon it had “corrected 1095-A forms were posted to the customer portal and paper copies would soon be sent via postal mail.”

FORMER HEALTHCARE.GOV CEO: HEALTH REFORM “GOING TO BECOME TRUMPCARE.” In an interview with the [Connecticut Mirror](#) (2/26, Becker), Kevin Counihan, the former CEO of healthcare.gov, says that no matter what happened with health reform, President Trump “is going to own this. It’s going to become Trumpcare.” He also said the “philosophy behind so many” ACA reform proposals by the Republican Congress is a “very strong sense of health care being an issue of personal responsibility as opposed to a right of citizenship.” The ACA has gotten more popular since Obama has left office, Counihan said, because “people don’t

necessarily realize what they have until it's gone," and because of the "fact that people are calling it the Affordable Care Act now more than Obamacare."

CARROLL COUNTY RESIDENTS CONCERNED ACA REPEAL WOULD GET RID OF BENEFITS. The [Carroll County \(MD\) Times](#) (2/25, 72K) reported Carroll County residents have questions about a "leaked draft of a House GOP bill" that would "eliminate many of the taxes and benefits" associated with the Affordable Care Act. If the bans on denying people coverage for pre-existing conditions and the lifetime cap on payouts are gone, the Times discussed how the parents whose son requires expensive treatment for his cystic fibrosis may "go bankrupt." A grass-roots organization, Carroll CAN, will hold "diverse panel for a discussion of both the Affordable Care Act and its possible replacement or enhancement."

CONSUMERS CONFUSED OVER ACA TAX REQUIREMENTS SHOULD FOLLOW CURRENT REGULATIONS. In her [California Healthline](#) (2/24, 1K) column, Emily Bazar wrote that there is "widespread confusion among consumers about the status of Obamacare, and because of that, they are uncertain how to handle Obamacare-related tax requirements." According to California tax experts, the ACA is still law, and consumers should follow the current rules and regulations. She says many tax preparers "they'd rather not deal with the law's arcane and complex requirements," but everyone she spoke with said "they will continue doing so as long as former President Barack Obama's health law exists."

CALIFORNIA POLICYMAKERS CONSIDER "SINGLE-PAYER" SYSTEM. The [Los Angeles Times](#) (2/26, Karlamangla, 4.52M) reports some California politicians and healthcare advocates are floating the idea of a state-run "single-payer" system that operates like Medicare. State Sen. Ricardo Lara (D) "introduced a bill Friday that would make California the first state to adopt single-payer." However, single-payer proposals have "a long, troubled history in California," having been vetoed by then-Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. Critics worry about financing single-payer's high costs and that the quality of healthcare "might be a step down" from some current insurance plans.

GOP CONGRESSMAN SAYS REPEALING OBAMACARE WOULD "RESTORE PERSONAL LIBERTY." [MSNBC](#) (2/24, Benen, 8.33M) reported in the "MaddowBlog" that Rep. Mike Burgess (R-TX), chairman of the House Energy and Commerce subcommittee related to healthcare, said at the Conservative Political Action Conference this weekend that it would be a "good thing" for the number of people with health insurance to drop if Obamacare were repealed "because we restored personal liberty in this country." Burgess also said about the individual mandate, "We're not going to send an IRS agent out to chase you down and make you buy health insurance." Both Vice President Pence and House Speaker Paul Ryan have echoed Burgess' stance in recent statements that the ACA restricts "freedom."

OBAMACARE "KEEP YOUR PLAN" RULE REMAINS IN EFFECT THROUGH 2018. The [Omaha \(NE\) World-Herald](#) (2/25, Jordon, 544K) reports the Affordable Care Act's "keep your plan" rule will remain in place through the end of 2018. The exemption allows patients to keep their pre-ACA individual or small-group health plan if their insurance company agrees.

HOUSE ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE CHAIR TO PLAY "LARGE ROLE" IN HEALTHCARE REFORM. The [New York Times](#) (2/25, Pear, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) profiles House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Greg Walden (R-OR) given the "large role" he will play "in drafting promised legislation to replace former President Barack Obama's signature domestic achievement and a huge say in decisions about the future of Medicaid, which the health law greatly expanded." According to the Times, Walden "knows the politics of health care as well as anyone," but he has to "reconcile the political goals of his party, which is committed to repealing the 2010 health law, and the interests of his state, where officials say the law has been a big success." The Times highlights that Oregon successfully increased insurance coverage and enrolling residents in Medicaid. As he "has worked productively with Democrats," the Times adds that "in Oregon, some Democrats and health-law supporters are

glad Mr. Walden is in his position."

WHITE HOUSE WON'T GUARANTEE PEOPLE WON'T LOSE HEALTH INSURANCE FROM ACA REPEAL. The [Huffington Post](#) (2/26, 237K) reports White House deputy press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders "repeatedly dodged" the question if any Americans currently covered by the ACA would lose their coverage under President Trump's healthcare plan on ABC's "This Week." Host George Stephanopoulos questioned Sanders "on why, if Trump was so intent on replacing the law with something better, the White House couldn't guarantee that everyone currently with insurance wouldn't lose it." Sanders said, "We cannot survive under the current system," but when Stephanopoulos pressed her again, Sanders said she wouldn't "speak specifically for the president on that topic."

TRUMP VOTER TORN BETWEEN SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT, OBAMACARE. The [Los Angeles Times](#) (2/24, Levey, 4.52M) reports on Kathy Watson, a "55-year-old former small-business owner – who has battled diabetes, high blood pressure and two cancers – [and who] credits Obamacare with saving her life." The Times says "Watson also voted for Donald Trump, believing the businessman would bring change," and that "she dismissed his campaign pledges to scrap the Affordable Care Act as bluster." Meanwhile, "as she watches the new president push to kill the law that provided her with a critical lifeline, Watson finds herself among many Trump supporters who must reconcile their votes with worries about the future of their healthcare." She says she "is getting irritated by what she hears from the new president." She said, "I'll give it a little more time. ... But I'm not really sure about Trump anymore."

MNUCHIN, PRICE MEET WITH PUERTO RICO GOVERNOR ABOUT TERRITORY'S ECONOMIC CRISIS. The [AP](#) (2/24) reports Puerto Rico Gov. Ricardo Rossello met on Friday with Treasury Secretary Mnuchin "about how the federal office could help transform the U.S. territory's economy" and Health and Human Services Secretary Price "over concerns about dwindling Medicaid funds." The AP says that "Puerto Rico stands to lose about \$1 billion in federal health care funding by year's end."

[Reuters](#) (2/24, Brown) reports Rossello asserted that he was "committed to establishing a working relationship" and promoting "open dialogue" with Mnuchin, who he met with to discuss efforts to "put Puerto Rico's financial house in order," according to a statement from the governor's office. Rossello said, "A \$1 billion reduction in healthcare would not only severely hamper the people of Puerto Rico, it would also cripple what is a healthy industry, the healthcare industry." Reuters explains that "Puerto Rico's Medicare system is on the brink of insolvency, in part because, as a U.S. territory, it receives proportionately less federal reimbursement than states." Meanwhile, "Rossello has said he will lobby the federal government to increase such funding, but the board has said the turnaround plan should not assume any funding changes or help from Washington."

REPUBLICANS CAN'T AGREE ON ACA REPLACEMENT. The [Washington Examiner](#) (2/26, Feldscher, 400K) reports that Republicans are struggling to sketch in an ACA "replacement with broad enough backing to pass both the House and Senate." The examiner says "they agree the government needs more boundaries, but they're far from in agreement on where to draw those lines." The Examiner says that "interviews with members of Congress over the past month highlighted the divisions, which are hanging like a dark cloud over congressional GOP leaders as they try to build consensus around a plan to replace the Affordable Care Act this spring, even as they repeal big parts of the law." The Examiner explains that "Republicans don't even agree on the end goal," with some saying "it's to get everyone covered" while some "say it's to ensure everyone has access to affordable coverage," and "others want to work on just lowering the cost of insurance and let the rest work itself out."

OBAMACARE REPEAL THREAT LEAVES COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS UNCERTAIN. [Kaiser Health News](#) (2/24, 2K) reports that the ACA was a game changer for community health centers – "it has enabled them to get reimbursement for much more of the care they provided,

because more of their patients now had private insurance or were on Medicaid." However, "with repeal of the ACA looming, clinic directors said they stay up at night wondering what's next." Kaiser "spoke with four, who all say their clinics are in a holding pattern as Congress debates the health law's future." Julie Hudman, the CEO of Saban Community Clinic in Los Angeles, Calif., said that "these days, more than half of Saban's revenue comes from health insurance" and that "the possibility of losing some of that money...is forcing some hard decisions." Janice Harbin, CEO of Jordan Health in Rochester, N.Y., also says that "if federal funding is cut significantly, they would potentially lose some services."

TRUMP HOLDS MEETINGS WITH GOVERNORS OVER ACA REPLACEMENT. The [Washington Post](#) (2/26, A1, Eilperin, Goldstein, 11.43M) reports on its front page that Ohio Gov. John Kasich met with President Trump on Friday afternoon to discuss a possible alternative to the ACA. A Kasich adviser told reporters that Trump preferred Kasich's plan over what House Republicans are sketching out. Kasich's plan includes removing the minimum requirements for plans and reducing the Medicaid eligibility limit from 138 percent of the poverty line to 100 percent. During Trump's meeting with Florida Governor Rick Scott on Sunday, they discussed how to address states that did not expand Medicaid under the ACA and create more competition in the market place.

[CNN](#) (2/26, Watkins, Klein, 29.79M) reports President Trump spoke at the annual Governors' Dinner Sunday evening and offered a preview of his healthcare plan, which he described as "something very special." Trump told the governors that the ACA has "tremendous problems," which necessitates its repeal and replacement. The dinner was the first major social event of the Trump White House. The [Washington Examiner](#) (2/27, Koffler, 400K) also reports.

TRUMP TELLS GOVERNORS "VERY, VERY SPECIAL" ACA REPLACEMENT COMING. The [AP](#) (2/26, Thomas) reports that President Trump welcomed 46 governors and their spouses to the Governors' Ball at the White House Sunday night. During his toast, Trump mentioned his meeting Monday "with the governors at the White House, saying, 'Perhaps health care will come up,' a nod to the effort in Congress to repeal and replace" the Affordable Care Act. Trump told the governors he has already made progress despite "turmoil at the start of his administration and legal challenges to his executive order temporarily banning travelers from seven predominantly Muslim countries." DGA Chairman Virginia Gov, Terry McAuliffe, a "longtime ally of Trump's campaign rival, Hillary Clinton, led the governors in a toast of Trump." McAuliffe "said they all shared the common goals of jobs, education, quality health care and infrastructure across the nation." [The Hill](#) (2/26, Master, 1.25M) says Trump said of an ACA repeal and replacement plan, "I think you're going to see something very, very special."

WPost A1: White House Divided Over ACA Overhaul. The [Washington Post](#) (2/26, A1, Eilperin, Goldstein, 11.43M) reports on its front page that "top White House aides are divided on how dramatic an [ACA] overhaul effort" Republicans "should pursue," and President Trump is "the biggest wild card," having "devoted only a modest amount of time to the grinding task of mastering health-care policy" while "repeatedly suggest[ing] that his sweeping new plan is nearly complete." Trump "continues to express confidence about his administration's ostensible plan," telling reporters last week, "So we're doing the health care – again, moving along very well – sometime during the month of March, maybe mid- to early March, we'll be submitting something that I think people will be very impressed by."

On [Fox News Sunday](#) (2/26, Wallace), Corey Lewandowski said of President Trump's plans to repeal and replace the ACA, "In his press conference the President said by the second or third week in March he will have a plan up on the Hill, they are going to be working on this to make sure that there is a unified component so that people can actually have health care coverage. The President's been very clear about this, he has a giant heart. What he said was, 'We're not going to throw people on the street, we're going to take care of people.' But you have to do it in a manner that does not have increases of 100 plus percent so that people cannot cover themselves anymore."

GOP FACES TIME CRUNCH TO REPEAL AND REPLACE THE ACA BEFORE EASTER BREAK. The [Washington Times](#) (2/26, Howell, 272K) reports Congressional Republicans are facing a “do-or-die” stretch on Capitol Hill. Lawmakers are hoping to repeal the ACA before taking their annual Easter break. GOP leaders have promised to introduce legislation by mid-March. Leaders must now act in short order to heal the fractures between the House Freedom Caucus and more moderate Republicans who represent states that expanded Medicaid.

TRUMP TO ADDRESS REPEALING AND REPLACING ACA DURING ADDRESS TO JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Peterson, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports White House officials told reporters Sunday that President Trump will speak about repealing and replacing the ACA during his address to a joint session of Congress on Tuesday. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin told Fox News that the President will not be including reforms of Medicare and Social Security in his budget proposal. The [Washington Post](#) (2/26, Wagner, Debonis, 11.43M) reports President Trump is “under growing pressure from his own party to offer specifics” on the ACA replacement. Press Secretary Sean Spicer said Sunday that the President’s address will touch on a large number of subjects and be cast in broad strokes. [Reuters](#) (2/26, Holland) also reports.

PROTESTS TO OPPOSE REPEALING THE ACA TAKE PLACE NATIONWIDE. The [Arizona Republic](#) (2/25, Mitchell, 1.1M) reports, “Medical professionals and Affordable Care Act supporters lined the sidewalk along Camelback Road near the offices of Sens. John McCain and Jeff Flake on Saturday afternoon.” Attendees in Phoenix referred to the possibility of repeal as a matter of life or death.

The [Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#) (2/25, Walker, 1.41M) reports thousands took to the streets in Atlanta to protest changing the ACA. The event took place while members of the DNC were meeting in Atlanta to determine the new head of their party. The march was the second in Atlanta in less than a week.

The [Boston Globe](#) (2/25, Burke, 1.08M) reports “doctors, health care executives, and other supporters of the Affordable Care Act gathered in front of the [Massachusetts] State House on Saturday to condemn President Trump’s vow to dismantle the nation’s landmark health care law.” Supporters called the ACA the most important piece of social justice and civil rights legislation since the Great Society.

The [Charleston \(WV\) Gazette-Mail](#) (2/25, Jarvis, 9K) reports more than 200 West Virginians gathered in Charleston on Saturday to show their support for the ACA and hoped to garner the attention of the state’s congressional delegation. Attendees shared their stories about how the ACA helped them in their time of need.

The [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#) (2/25, Remington, 976K) reports about 30 people held a pro-ACA rally in Cleveland on Saturday. The rally comes in response to calls by Sens. Schumer (D-NY) and Sanders (I-VT) for a “Day of Action.”

The [Denver Post](#) (2/25, Worthington, 778K) reports more than 200 people in Denver “rallied in Civic Center park downtown to show their support for the Affordable Care Act and to urge Congress to fix – not nix – health care coverage.” Republicans in the state legislature have introduced legislation aimed at repealing the state exchange.

The [Eugene \(OR\) Register-Guard](#) (2/26, 178K) reports about 2,000 people rallied Saturday in Eugene, Oregon, and Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR) and Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-OR) spoke to the crowd during the Save Our Health Care Rally at Lane Community College.

The [Knoxville \(TN\) News Sentinel](#) (2/26, Capps, 245K) reports the Tennessee Health Care Campaign and the Save My Care organization will host an event in Market Square in Knoxville on

Tuesday to protest the possible repeal of the ACA. The organizations held an event in Nashville's Centennial Park on Feb. 22, which featured performances from local artists. The [Tennessean](#) (2/25, Balakit, 407K) also reports on the Tennessee rallies.

The [Las Vegas Review-Journal](#) (2/25, Millward, 676K) reports participants in Las Vegas' Day of Action called on Sen. Dean Heller (R-NV) to oppose his colleagues efforts to repeal the ACA. The group of 75 protesters shared stories of chronic diseases that have caused health problems for their families and how the ACA helped them gain coverage and treatment.

The [Lexington \(KY\) Herald-Leader](#) (2/25, Crumbie, 306K) reports about 180 Kentuckians gathered Saturday at the Robert F. Stephens Courthouse Plaza in Lexington to protest against Kentucky lawmakers who want to repeal the ACA. The event was hosted by the progressive Our Revolution Central Kentucky. Michael Winkler, an associate professor of Radiology and Internal Medicine at the University of Kentucky, spoke to attendees, calling the pre-ACA system unjust and morally wrong.

The [Naples \(FL\) Daily News](#) (2/25, Collins, 132K) reports more than 200 protesters met in East Naples to rally against a possible repeal of the ACA. The protesters chanted and sang near Congressman Francis Rooney's Naples office while he was in DC speaking at CPAC. Attendees chided Rooney for failing to hold an in-person town hall meeting during the congressional recess.

[Newsday \(NY\)](#) (2/25, Olson, 1.3M) reports hundreds packed a church in Huntington, New York to oppose the possible repeal of the ACA and push for a state bill that could provide insurance for all New York residents. Metro New York Vice President of Physicians for a National Health Program Dr. Martha Livingston told attendees, "We want to build on the wildly successful and inexpensively administered Medicare program." The attendees broke up into groups based on their state senate districts to help lobby lawmakers to support the statewide insurance proposal.

[Philly \(PA\)](#) (2/25, Brubaker, 942K) reports a group of 75 individuals marched to Sen. Pat Toomey's (R-PA) Philadelphia office to protest his support for repealing the ACA. Sen. Bob Casey (D-PA) spoke at a rally in Center City and expressed his support for keeping the ACA.

The [Redlands \(CA\) Daily Facts](#) (2/24, Hernandez, 2K) reports "advocates of health reform" gathered at "Peace Corner" in Redlands, California on Friday afternoon to express their support for the ACA, Medicare, and Planned Parenthood.

[Santa Fe New Mexican](#) (2/26, Nott, 39K) reports hundreds gathered at Santa Fe's town hall to express support for the ACA. Candace Stoughton expressed concern for her future after losing her job last week. She told reporters, "If [Congress repeals] the Affordable Care Act, I will basically be operating without insurance."

The [Santa Rosa \(CA\) Press Democrat](#) (2/25, Digitale, 189K) reports a crowd of at least 1,000 gathered at a Santa Rosa town hall meeting on Saturday. The event took place in the gym of Piner High School, where attendees called for resisting the Trump Administration's place to replace the ACA. The meeting was attended by various Democratic members of the state Assembly and Senate.

DC COUNCIL CONSIDERING MEASURE TO PROTECT ACA COVERAGE GUARANTEES FOR WOMEN. The [Washington Business Journal](#) (2/24, Reed, Subscription Publication, 132K) reports the DC Council will "consider a measure to protect the health reform law's insurance coverage guarantees for women, including for contraception." The proposal would "require insurers to cover gestational diabetes screening, human papilloma virus testing, counseling for sexually transmitted infections such as HIV, sterilization procedures, breastfeeding support and counseling resources for domestic violence victims." Councilman Charles Allen (D-Ward 6) told reporters he was ready to "do battle" over the proposal if Congress chooses to override it.

GOP PROPOSAL WOULD INCREASE AVERAGE PREMIUM FOR SENIORS. The [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#) (2/27, Twedt, 493K) reports House Speaker Paul Ryan's (R-WI) ACA alternative has drawn opposition from groups such as AARP for its proposal to allow insurers to charge seniors as much as five times more than younger Americans. The current law only allows insurers to charge three times more for older customers. The proposal would allow for younger Americans to see a decrease in their monthly premiums, but AARP points out that the fastest growing group of uninsured Americans is those in the 50-64 age group. Blue Cross Blue Shield Association released a statement saying its goal was to attract younger, healthier people into the system to offset costs. Failure to do so would send premiums skyrocketing, the group predicts.

FLORIDA REP DEMINGS PLEDGES TO DEFEND ACA, WEBSTER HOLDS LISTENING SESSION. The [Orlando \(FL\) Sentinel](#) (2/22, Gillespie, 684K) reports Rep. Val Demings (D-FL) hosted a town hall with constituents Sunday, where she reaffirmed the commitment to fight against repealing the ACA. Demings told attendees that the ACA was not perfect but that she was working "every day to make healthcare more affordable for everyone." On the other hand, Rep. Dan Webster (R-FL) hosted a "listening session," which drew a raucous crowd of more than 100. Attendees shouted at Webster "What's the plan?"

CALIFORNIA LAWMAKERS CONSIDER SINGLE-PAYER SYSTEM. The [Los Angeles Times](#) (2/26, Karlamangla, 4.52M) reports some California politicians and healthcare advocates are floating the idea of creating a state run single-payer healthcare system similar to Medicare. The move comes as congressional Republicans are pledging to repeal the ACA. On Friday, State Sen. Ricardo Lara (D-Bell Gardens) introduced legislation that would make California the first state to implement a single-payer system similar to what Canada has. However, a 2008 report from the California Legislative Analyst's Office determined that even with taxes the plan would be short by \$40 billion in the first year. The [Washington Examiner](#) (2/27, Koffler, 400K) also reports.

HOSPITAL PROGRAMS FOCUS ON REDUCING PATIENT READMISSIONS. [USA Today](#) (2/24, O'Donnell, 5.28M) reported on a Christiana Care health system program "called Care Link that's funded by a variety of federal grants through" CMS. As the Affordable Care Act's fate grows more uncertain, hospitals are working to decrease patient readmission within 30 days. Nearly five percent of hospital patients with multiple chronic conditions account for almost 50 percent of the cost, one expert said, highlighting the need for programs such as Greenville, SC Health System's accountable care organization MyHealth First Network that works with Medicare to generate over \$17 million in savings and care for almost 60,000 Medicare patients.

COMMENTARY CONSIDERS ACA. Several outlets offer opinions on health reform.

In an opinion piece, the [Washington Post](#) (2/24, Sargent, 11.43M) "Plum Line" blog contributor Greg Sargent wrote that Republicans' planned replacement for the Affordable Care Act would turn Medicaid into a "per capita" system and replace the law's tax hikes with a broader tax on health plans. Sargent concludes that "if you are surprised by these basic emerging priorities, you weren't paying attention."

In an opinion piece, [Forbes](#) (2/26, 15.17M) "The Apothecary" blog contributor Avik Roy writes that the Republicans' plan to replace the Affordable Care Act would amend the Internal Revenue Code to provide flat subsidies to Americans buying health insurance and expand health savings accounts. Roy writes that the plan would also provide "state innovation grants" to help fund high-risk pools.

Atul Gawande, a surgeon and public health researchers, writes in the [New Yorker](#) (2/26, Gawande, 3.47M) that Congressional Republicans are now "facing the wrath of constituents who don't want to lose" what they have gained under the Affordable Care Act. Gawande argues that the law has benefited millions of people and that Republicans are now trying to quickly devise an alternative to the law that keeps its most popular benefits in place, but that they are running out of time because insurers have to decide soon whether to continue offering plans on the exchanges

created by the law.

The [Detroit News](#) (2/25, 473K) editorialized that “President Donald Trump says he will deliver his plan for replacing Obamacare within the next several days.” The editorial argues that “considerable wizardry will be required to keep the good things Obamacare introduced while establishing a vigorous health insurance market that doesn’t bust household or government budgets.”

In an opinion piece, the [Huffington Post](#) (2/26, 237K) contributor Paul Abrams writes that the Affordable Care Act is a conservative healthcare plan and that no “more conservative” plan works. Abrams argues that the law “was the conservative health care plan,” which is why Republicans “have never been able to craft an alternative—at least one that works.”

Walter Zelman, the chair of California State University, Los Angeles’ Department of Public Health, wrote in an opinion piece in the [Sacramento \(CA\) Bee](#) (2/24, 574K) that “repealing Obamacare without a replacement is off the table.” Zelman argues that “Republicans are now recognizing that a replacement plan may have to guarantee that those who have health coverage can keep it.”

Robert Schlesinger, the managing editor for opinion for US News and World Report, wrote in an opinion piece in [U.S. News & World Report](#) (2/24, Schlesinger, 1.02M) that public approval of the Affordable Care Act has now reached 48% compared with 42% of Americans who have an unfavorable view, according to the latest Kaiser Health Tracking Poll. The new poll finds the highest approval rating for the law since the polls began in 2010.

Justin Haskins, the executive editor of The Heartland Institute and editor-in-chief of the New Revere Daily Press, and Michael T. Hamilton, a Heartland Institute research fellow, wrote in the [The Hill](#) (2/25, Haskins, Hamilton, 1.25M) “Pundits Blogs” that claims that 20 million people have gained healthcare coverage under the Affordable Care Act are false. Haskins and Hamilton argue that the claim “is a mythological political creature of the worst sort,” and that fewer than 20 million people have gained coverage under the law.

In an opinion piece, [Forbes](#) (2/24, Mandelbaum, 15.17M) contributor Robb Mandelbaum wrote that “health insurance premiums have been rising for decades,” and that the Affordable Care Act is not responsible for “skyrocketing” premiums. Mandelbaum says that premium growth was actually lower between 2010 and 2015 compared to premium growth from 2004 to 2010.

David Cutler, a professor of applied economics at Harvard University, John Bertko, a chief actuary at California’s health insurance exchange, and Topher Spiro, the vice president for health policy at the Center for American Progress, wrote in an opinion piece in [Vox](#) (2/24, Cutler, Bertko, Spiro, 1.15M) “The Big Idea” blog that consumer healthcare costs could increase significantly under Republicans’ plans to replace the Affordable Care Act. The three health policy experts argue that based on their analysis, “the average total cost for an individual covered by the Affordable Care Act” would increase “by \$1,744 per year.”

The [Santa Rosa \(CA\) Press Democrat](#) (2/24, 189K) editorialized that the Affordable Care Act should be retained and repaired because it has extended healthcare coverage to 20 million Americans. The editorial argues that the law “has delivered on its basic promise — expanding access to health care by reducing the cost of insurance, especially in states such as California that fully embraced the program.”

Jonathan Chait wrote in his column in the [Daily Intelligencer \(NY\)](#) (2/24, 795K) that Republicans still disagree about how to replace the Affordable Care Act, but a recent plan “would create very few winners and an enormous number of losers.” Chait argues that a recent Republican proposal would cut taxes for the highest-income people, while taxing millions more for the health insurance they receive from their employers and reducing the amount of payment received by many

healthcare providers.

The [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#) (2/25, 729K) editorialized that it would be a “nightmare” if Republicans repeal the Affordable Care Act. The editorial argues that the law has increased the percentage of Americans with health insurance and improved the quality of healthcare available to many Americans.

The [Cleveland Plain Dealer](#) (2/25, 976K) editorialized that Ohio Gov. John Kasich should continue defending the state's expansion of Medicaid amid proposals to repeal the Affordable Care Act, which allowed that expansion. The editorial argues that Kasich is right to defend the state's Medicaid expansion, which provides healthcare coverage to about 700,000 state residents.

In his guest article for [Forbes](#) (2/26, Mandelbaum, 15.17M) Robb Mandelbaum uses the story of Durable Corporation to explain the impact of the ACA. After the ACA was passed, the company continued to provide insurance for its 37 employees under the ACA's “grandmothered” plans which don't have to meet the minimum requirements. The clause has been extended to the end of 2017. While insurers did not offer Mandelbaum information about the scale of the “grandmothered” plans, he argues that companies with younger, healthier employees have tended to stick with the “grandmothered” plans.

In a guest opinion piece for the [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) Independent Women's Voice CEO Heather Higgins, who runs the Repeal & Reform coalition, argues the GOP plan to repeal and replace the ACA is filled with downsides making it easy for Democrats to derail their proposal. She believes that the GOP's use of reconciliation will not be sufficient to repeal the more destructive aspects of the ACA. Higgins predicts that if Republicans do not make certain changes, they will be blamed for the future impact of not addressing the aspects that undermine competition and cause premiums to rise. Higgins urges Republicans to change course and be more bold and strategic about their approach.

In a guest article for the [Washington Times](#) (2/26, Friess, 272K), conservative mega-donor and founder of the Friess Association Foster Friess argues a shift towards Health Savings Accounts would help drive down prices and increase patient awareness of services, but hospitals do not like the plan. Friess also argues that increased competition among insurers will drive down premiums and reduce the overall cost to obtain treatment.

In an opinion piece for the [New York Times](#) (2/24, Rattner, Subscription Publication, 13.9M), financier Steven Rattner argues replacing the ACA will be difficult due to its helping at least 23 million Americans become insured. Rattner adds that if the Republicans push to repeal all of the taxes associated with the ACA and replace them with tax credits, it will not address the systemic problems. Rattner concludes that no serious expert believes that removing the taxes would allow for the same number to obtain insurance.

In an opinion piece for the [Los Angeles Times](#) (2/24, 4.52M), columnist Michael Hiltzik claims Trump's nominee to run Medicare, Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act Seema Verma “demonstrated either utter ignorance about how health insurance works, or such desperation for this job that she's willing to profess ignorance and paper it over with conservative shibboleths about ‘individual choice’ and the freedom to make one's own decision.” Hiltzik highlights in particular Verma's claim that some women do not need maternity leave, which she offered in response to a question posed by Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI).

In a guest piece for [Bloomberg View](#) (2/24, Mihm, 125K) associate professor of history at the University of Georgia Stephen Mihm claims House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) plans to limit the tax breaks employers get on the grounds that “they encourage companies and their employees to spend more on health care than is necessary.” Mihm agrees with Ryan's approach.

Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb writes for [The Hill](#) (2/23, Holcomb, 1.25M) in its "Pundits Blog" that the Indiana HIP 2.0 plan should be the model for the nation. HIP 2.0 offers 400,000 low-income Hoosiers a way to obtain health insurance while promoting healthy-behaviors. The HIP plan, according to Holcomb, creates a "skin-in-the-game" approach that "reflects the core values of personal responsibility and fiscal discipline" which he argues are intrinsic to communities.

In a guest piece for [Forbes](#) (2/24, 15.17M), Ohio Gov. John Kasich argued "the roadmap to responsible reform must take both coverage and cost into consideration." Kasich believes the first step lawmakers should take is to restore stability to the healthcare market place, and that the Trump Administration should "allow states greater flexibility to define essential health benefits." Kasich adds that eliminating coverage without finding a "viable alternative would be counterproductive and unnecessarily put at risk our ability to treat the drug addicted and mentally ill."

The [New York Post](#) (2/26, 3.82M) editorial board writes New York Gov. Cuomo's pledge to prevent the repeal of the ACA is empty, because he has no power in DC. The editorial board claims that if the ACA is repealed then it will be up to Cuomo and the legislature to make up for the lost revenue from the Federal government.

Healthcare News:

MINNESOTA LIFTS BAN ON FOR-PROFIT HMOS. The [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) (2/26, Snowbeck, 1.27M) reports that while Minnesota lawmakers last month struck down the state's 40-year ban on for-profit HMOs "saying the reversal might draw competitors to the state's beleaguered market where individuals buy coverage," some "doubt the move will have much practical effect, at least any time soon." Roger Feldman, a professor of health policy and management at the University of Minnesota, said, "I hope that allowing for-profit HMOs will create more competition, but the high concentration of provider markets in the state will make it difficult for any insurer to enter." Feldman "said he was skeptical the HMO change would expand insurance options, because doctors and hospitals practice in large groups that make it difficult for newcomers to negotiate competitive payment rates."

COLORADO PHARMACISTS TO BEGIN PRESCRIBING ORAL CONTRACEPTIVES. The [Denver Post](#) (2/27, Brown, 778K) reports pharmacists in Colorado will soon "begin prescribing oral contraceptives under a new protocol that will provide unprecedented access to birth control in" the state. Under the law which was passed last year, women aged 18 and older "can complete a questionnaire, blood-pressure check and a 10- to 15-minute consultation with a pharmacist, then walk out with birth-control pills or patches." The article points out that in 2012, the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists "endorsed making oral contraceptives available over the counter...saying women were able to 'self-screen' for problems, and that seeing a doctor was an unnecessary obstacle for most women."

FLORIDA SUPREME COURT OVERTURNS RULING ON PLANNED PARENTHOOD CLINIC. The [AP](#) (2/24, Schneider) reported the Florida Supreme Court announced its decision to overturn a moratorium on abortions and sonograms at the Planned Parenthood affiliate Kissimmee Health Center, saying the trial judge in the initial review "misstated facts." The lawsuit, launched by physicians from a separate practice in the same medical complex, focused on property restrictions which only permit "ancillary and incidental" surgical procedures on the premises. The high court and the appellate court found the trial judge's ruling against the clinic to be "an error."

BARBARA BUSH TO HEADLINE PLANNED PARENTHOOD FUNDRAISER. [The Hill](#) (2/24, Seipel, 1.25M) "Briefing Room" blog cites the [Texas Tribune](#) in reporting that Barbara Pierce Bush, the daughter of former President George W. Bush as well as CEO and co-founder of Global Health Corps, next week "is expected to be the keynote speaker at the Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas's annual Fort Worth fundraising luncheon."

UTAH BILL PROPOSES “INFORMED CONSENT” ON MEDICALLY INDUCED ABORTION PROCEDURES. The [Salt Lake \(UT\) Tribune](#) (2/24, 426K) reported the Utah House of Representatives voted on Friday to require that women seeking medically-induced abortions be notified the procedure can be reversed. While House Minority Leader Brian King who opposes the measure said the information is “simply not well established in science,” Rep. Ray Ward, a physician, called it “medically accurate” and “important information for a woman to have as she finds herself in this type of a situation.” The article pointed out that the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists disseminated a fact sheet confirming pregnancies continue in 30 percent to 50 percent of instances where women take the first medication, and recommended that, “in the rare situation where a woman takes mifepristone and then changes her mind, doing nothing and waiting to see what happens is just as effective” as other types of “intervention.”

The [Deseret \(UT\) News](#) (2/24, Page, 362K) reported the bill would mandate that physicians notify women that the abortion can be stopped after taking “the first of two pills required in the procedure.”

The [AP](#) (2/24) also reported the story.

BILL AIMS TO CLOSE LOOPHOLES IN TEXAS BALANCE BILLING MEDIATION PROGRAM. The [Fort Worth \(TX\) Star-Telegram](#) (2/24, McUsic, 463K) reported Texas State Sen. Kelly Hancock (R) has proposed Senate Bill 507, which would fix loopholes in the “balance billing” mediation program Texans can use to “fight back against unexpected out-of-network charges on their emergency room bills.” The process is “getting little use” due to those loopholes, but “when the mediation program is used, it is effective.”

Food & Import Safety:

THREE TRADER JOE’S APPLESAUCE PRODUCTS RECALLED BECAUSE THEY MAY CONTAIN GLASS. The [Connecticut Post](#) (2/26, Cuda, 268K) reports Manzana Products “is voluntarily recalling three different types of Trader Joe’s Unsweetened Apple Sauces” that may contain glass. The products were “removed from store shelves and destroyed” after customers complained about the problem.

Nutrition & Obesity:

PHYSICIANS DEBATE BARIATRIC SURGERY AS “LAST BEST HOPE” FOR OBESE TEENS. In a nearly 1,900-word article, the [New York Times](#) (2/24, Kolata, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reported that as the number of “severely obese” teenagers has “nearly doubled” between 1999 and 2014, “more and more” physicians “and parents are facing a difficult question: Should very heavy teenagers have bariatric surgery, a radical operation that is the only treatment proved to produce lasting weight loss in severely obese people?” The Times stated that surgery is the “last best hope” for a number of these teens, although “scientists say there’s an urgent need for more ambitious research.” According to the Times, “The question for teens and their parents is: Which is worse – accepting uncertainty about the long term health risks from surgery or the likelihood of serious health risks from remaining obese?”

Medicaid & CHIP:

GOP GOVERNORS WORKING ON PROPOSALS THAT WOULD REQUIRE ADULT MEDICAID RECIPIENTS TO WORK. The [New York Times](#) (2/25, A1, Goodnough, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reported on its front page that Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson “is among a number of Republican governors hoping to impose a work requirement on Medicaid recipients,” which the Times suggested is one of several “change[s] that would most likely result in many people losing coverage.” The paper examined the GOP’s replacement plan for the Affordable Care Act, and said it “shows just how far some Republican leaders hope to go in overhauling a

program that has grown under the [ACA] to insure one in five Americans, including more than half of the roughly 20 million people who have gained coverage under the health law." The Times pointed out that "even as divisions among Republicans in Congress slow efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act, Mr. Hutchinson and other Republican governors are developing proposals to require many Medicaid recipients to have a job, participate in job training or perform community service."

NYTIMES URGES STATES TO ALLOW INMATES TO RECEIVE MEDICAID ASSISTANCE.

The [New York Times](#) (2/27, Board, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) says in an editorial that "some states are working to break the recidivism cycle by making sure that inmates are signed up for Medicaid when they are released, so that they can have access to proper medication and care." The Times argues that "while that's important, it's even more critical that the federal government do away with rules that prevent inmates from receiving Medicaid assistance." Denying inmates care "is both inhumane and more costly to taxpayers in the long run."

WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS SAY TRUMP ISN'T CUTTING MEDICARE, SOCIAL SECURITY.

The [AP](#) (2/26, Taylor, Pace) reports two Administration officials said Sunday President Trump is not planning to cut Social Security or Medicare. Treasury Sec. Steven Mnuchin told Fox News Channel's "Sunday Morning Futures" that "we are not touching those now." Deputy White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said on ABC's "This Week" that Trump was "committed" to keeping his campaign promise of not touching Medicare and Social Security.

RURAL HOSPITALS COULD BE HURT BY ELIMINATING MEDICAID EXPANSION. In [Forbes](#) (2/26, 15.17M), contributor Bruce Japsen writes rural hospitals are worried rolling back the ACA will deliver a "huge financial hit with hundreds of health facilities already facing closure." A report by The Chartis Group found that "even without an effort to repeal the Affordable Care Act, more than 670 rural hospitals are at risk for closure." Michael Topchik, national leader at The Chartis Center for Rural Health and senior vice president at iVantage Health Analytics, said "Rural hospitals, many of which are operating on razor-thin margins, saw a statistically significant improvement of their bottom line in Medicaid expansion states." Replacing the Medicaid expansion with block grants "could lead to less funds for hospitals," so rural hospitals "say any replacement of the ACA needs to consider the plight of these facilities."

KANSAS LAWMAKERS QUESTION SUCCESS OF KANCARE. The [Lawrence \(KS\) Journal World](#) (2/24, 42K) reported Kansas Medicaid officials said on Friday that KanCare "is improving services for patients while saving the state an estimated \$1.4 billion a year." However, those involved with the program say its "plagued with problems," and some lawmakers have suggested that the savings are coming from "denying claims and reducing services in order to boost profits for the three private insurance companies that now manage the program." CMS last month "declined to renew a waiver the state has been operating under since 2012" because the program was "substantially out of compliance" with federal laws and regulations. The noncompliance, according to CMS, "places the health, welfare, and safety of KanCare beneficiaries at risk."

OVER 65,000 PROVIDERS REMOVED FROM MEDICAID ROLLS. An analysis by [Modern Healthcare](#) (2/25, Dickson, Subscription Publication, 241K) has found a provision of the ACA requiring providers to revalidate or recertify their Medicaid reimbursement eligibility has caused over 65,000 providers to be removed from Medicaid rolls in 15 states. There is no nationwide count of the total number of providers that accept Medicaid, "but to give a ballpark estimated on impact, Texas cut more than 28,000, or nearly 10%, of its 298,000 Medicaid providers." The analysis found some states have received revalidation notices from providers, "while others are just now evaluating their rolls because of staffing or technical limitations, according to officials at state Medicaid agencies."

75,000 Arkansas To Lose Medicaid Coverage Wednesday. The [Arkansas Democrat Gazette](#) (2/25, Davis, 278K) reports the 75,000 Arkansans, including 57,000 children, will lose Medicaid coverage Wednesday "as a result of checks of the recipients' eligibility, a spokesman for the

Arkansas Department of Human Services said." The spokesperson explained "most of those whose coverage will end are children whose parents failed to respond to notices directing them to visit a department website...and provide information needed for the eligibility check." Others who are losing coverage Wednesday "include low-income adults who failed to respond to notices requesting additional information or whose coverage should have been terminated earlier but wasn't because of problems with the new system."

Health & Medical News:

ANTIBIOTIC-RESISTANT INFECTIONS RISE FOR US CHILDREN, STUDY SUGGESTS. The [Washington Post](#) (2/25, Naqvi, 11.43M) reported "rising infections caused by a type of bacteria resistant to multiple antibiotics is causing longer hospitalizations and may mean a higher risk of death for children in the United States, according to a new study" published in the Journal of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society. The study "found that 3 out of 5 children admitted to hospitals already had an antibiotic-resistant infection – suggesting these infections are spreading more often in the community."

SCIENTISTS CALL FOR MORE PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF CRISPR ETHICAL CONCERNS. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Marcus, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports Crispr-Cas9 gene editing technique has presented scientists with a unique set of challenges by simplifying the process such a degree that it is accessible to amateur enthusiasts. As experts argue about moral limits of the technique, many are pushing for more public discussion of the ethical issues it raises. Dana Waring Bateman, education director of Harvard University's Personal Genetics Education Project, has created a lesson for high-school teachers that covers Crispr's history and discusses moral issues.

EXPERTS SUGGEST UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA FACES UPHILL BATTLE WITH CRISPR PATENTS. [STAT](#) (2/24, Begley) reports on the University of California's prospects for having patents recognized for all-environment, all-cell uses of CRISPR-Cas9 after the university lost a key patent dispute with the Broad Institute. Even if the university loses a probable appeal, it could still get patents that it filed in 2012, according to the report. STAT says that companies that want to use CRISPR might need to license both Broad's patent on eukaryotic-cell applications as well as the university's broader patents, but much will depend on how precisely the university's patent was written and how a court views that – and the prospects appear somewhat dim. Companies that have licenses with the university – but not with the Broad Institute – include "Caribou Biosciences, Intellia, and Crispr Therapeutics."

FIREFIIGHTERS HAVE HEIGHTENED RISK OF CONTRACTING CANCER. The [Washington Post](#) (2/24, Hermann, Bui, 11.43M) reports that while 40 states "have expanded medical, workers' compensation and disability coverage for" firefighters who contract cancer "and departments across the country are revamping training and how they handle gear to try to reduce risks," the increased "awareness" has been accompanied by "lingering anxiety from municipal governments, which fear setting a precedent for other public employees and triggering spiraling costs." The Post highlights a 2015 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention study of cancer risk among about 30,000 career firefighters over a 60 year period, which "showed that compared with the general population, firefighters on average are at a higher risk for certain kinds of cancer – mainly oral, digestive, respiratory, genital and urinary cancers."

HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS HAIL VIRGINIA FOR OUTLAWING FEMALE CIRCUMCISION. The [AP](#) (2/24, Winn) reports international human rights groups "are praising the Virginia General Assembly for approving legislation that makes female genital mutilation a crime." Following the passage of SB 1060, Virginia is set to join 24 other states with laws that criminalize FGM, according to the AHA Foundation, pending the signature of Gov. Terry McAuliffe.

DIRECT PRIMARY CARE PROPONENTS SAY IT CAN REDUCE COSTS, EXPAND CHOICES FOR PATIENTS. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Beck, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) details

direct primary care medicine, an alternative to insurance-based, paid-service care. In a direct primary care practice, patients are not charged for visits – instead, they pay a flat monthly fee that cover primary care and basic test. Proponents say the system is a viable option that could reduce costs and expand choices for patients.

GUT MICROBIOTA RESEARCH MAY LEAD TO NEW METABOLIC DISORDER

TREATMENTS, STUDY SUGGESTS. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Greenberg, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports new research by Israel's Weizmann Institute of Science on gut microbiota may lead to treatments for obesity, diabetes, and other conditions. The [findings](#) were published in the journal Cell.

FRACTAL ANALYSIS OF BRUSHSTROKES CAN REVEAL EARLY SYMPTOMS OF

ALZHEIMER'S, PARKINSON'S, STUDY SUGGESTS. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Holland, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports analysis of brush stroke patterns may discover early symptoms of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease, according to a University of Liverpool analysis of 2,092 paintings by seven artists. Researchers looked at fractal variations in the paintings, and found a consistent decline in fractal dimension in paintings of artists later diagnosed with the diseases. The [findings](#) were published on the American Psychological Association's PsycNET.

PATIENT EXPERIENCE GROUPS MAY PROVIDE INSIGHT TO IMPROVE TREATMENT. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Silverman, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports some healthcare providers are asking patients with similar conditions to share stories about their daily lives with each other. Doctors say the discussions, called experience groups, have helped address patients' problems and led to health improvements. The article also details several experience group trials that resulted in a positive impact on treatment.

TRANSCRANIAL DIRECT CURRENT STIMULATION MAY HELP CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM STROKE, RESEARCH SUGGESTS.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Furfaro, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports transcranial direct current stimulation may help children with neurological impairment from strokes, according to a trial of 24 children published in the journal Neurology. Researchers suggest the treatment may be beneficial, but concede that additional studies are needed to conclusively establish its effectiveness. A University of Munich Hospital review paper published in the Journal of Neural Transmission also suggests that the treatment is well tolerated by children.

OPINION: US SHOULD INCREASE FUNDING FOR NEGLECTED DISEASE RESEARCH. In an op-ed in [The Hill](#) (2/24, Nishi, Contributor, 1.25M) Director of the Global Health Technologies Coalition Jamie Bay Nishi warns that US "government funding for neglected disease research and development (R&D) fell to the lowest level recorded since the survey began a decade ago." Nishi argues that the drop "increases our vulnerability at a time when global pandemics are on the rise," and calls on President Trump to uphold his "promise to keep Americans safe and prosperous" by restoring research funding.

PHARMACEUTICALS KEPT PRICE HIKES UNDER CHECK DUE TO CRITICISM, ANALYSIS SUGGESTS.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Rockoff, Loftus, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports in a front-page article that about 5.5 percent of pharmaceutical companies' price increases were below 10 percent this January, down from 15 percent last year and 20 percent in 2015, according to an analysis by Raymond James & Associates. The median price increase of 8.9 percent was similar to last year's, however, and the Journal says even small increases lead to hundreds of millions of dollars in drug spending increases. Industry analysts cite reluctance to incite public anger and a desire to dampen initiatives to grant Medicare direct negotiating authority as likely reasons for most price increases falling below the 10 percent threshold.

WSJOURNAL: JOHNSON'S RIGHT-TO-TRY BILL WILL HELP TERMINALLY ILL PATIENTS.

In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) writes that Sen. Ron Johnson's (R-WI) right-to-try legislation is an effective way to provide an alternative

treatment path for terminally ill patients because it prohibits the FDA from restricting access to unapproved treatments and increases companies' incentives to participate by forbidding the FDA from using right-to-try data for its decision about a medicine's approval.

CLASS-ACTION LAWSUIT ALLEGES NEW YORK HOSPITAL OVERCHARGED FOR COPIES OF MEDICAL RECORDS. The [New York Post](#) (2/26, Marsh, Narizhnaya, 3.82M) reports a class action lawsuit has been filed against NewYork–Presbyterian Columbia University Medical Center alleging the hospital charged patients “twice what the law allows” for copies of their medical records. The problem was discovered when a 72-year-old retiree “was forced to cough up \$2,963 for 1,758 pages” of records.

EDITORIAL: NEW JERSEY SHOULD EXPEDITE INCLUSION OF CHRONIC PAIN IN MEDICAL MARIJUANA PROGRAM. In an editorial, the [Newark \(NJ\) Star-Ledger](#) (2/26, 438K) calls for New Jersey to expand its medical marijuana program to include “chronic pain as a qualifying condition.” A state panel is considering the issue, but the Star-Ledger argues that the eight-month process is too long for an estimated “100,000 people who needlessly suffer from chronic pain” and calls on Gov. Chris Christie to “expedite the expansion.”

INITIATIVE LED BY BLACK AND LATINO HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS AIMS TO INCREASE NUMBER OF MINORITY STUDENTS ENTERING HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONS. In an over 2,300 word article, [STAT](#) (2/23, Weintraub) reported the Tour for Diversity in Medicine is in an initiative led by black and Latino healthcare professionals to encourage and support more minority students entering healthcare professions. The article points out that blacks and Latinos are underrepresented among US doctors, and that research has found such disparities could be detrimental to public health.

HIV VACCINES MAY HELP SOME HIV-POSITIVE PATIENTS STOP TAKING ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY, SMALL STUDY SUGGESTS. [The Scientist](#) (2/24, Grens, 151K) reported HIV vaccines may allow some HIV-positive patients to stop taking antiretroviral therapy for a period of a time, according to a small 13-person [clinical trial](#) presented at the Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections in Seattle. The small trial found that five of the 13 participants were able to stop taking antiretroviral therapy after receiving the immune booster shots and appear to have viral loads that are “under control.” The other eight participants had to resume antiretroviral therapy.

ORGANIZATION AIMS TO PRESERVE GOVERNMENT DATA FROM BEING DELETED OR DESTROYED. [CNN Money](#) (2/25, Larson, 3.59M) reported Data Refuge is an organization founded after the election of President Donald Trump that aims to preserve government research data from being deleted or otherwise rendered inaccessible. The article reported that the group has organized several events where volunteers copied and published government data in order to preserve it.

MISSOURI LEGISLATORS DIVIDED OVER CREATION OF OPIOID PRESCRIPTION DATABASE. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/24, Whalen, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reported Missouri legislators remain divided over whether to establish a database to monitor opioid prescriptions. The article notes that Missouri is currently the only state that has not created such a database.

OHIO MAY BE FIRST STATE TO REGULATE MEDICAL MARIJUANA PURCHASE BY THC AMOUNT, NOT WEIGHT. The [Columbus \(OH\) Dispatch](#) (2/24, Johnson, 529K) reported that proposed rules by the Ohio State Board of Pharmacy “would make Ohio the only state to determine how much medical marijuana can be purchased based on the amount of tetrahydrocannabinol...it contains.” The article also says that Ohio officials “are pondering whether the state program, which isn't operational until next year, will be impacted by the Trump White House, warning that there will be greater federal enforcement of recreational marijuana programs.”

OPINION: MEDICAL MARIJUANA WILL DRASTICALLY REDUCE NUMBER OF FATAL OPIOID OVERDOSES IN PENNSYLVANIA. In an opinion piece for the [Philadelphia Inquirer](#) (2/24, Nicholson, 586K), Bruce Nicholson, MD, a pain management physician who was a member of the Medical Marijuana Advisory Board that will provide input to the Pennsylvania Department of Health, wrote that medical marijuana in Pennsylvania will help “drastically reduce the number of fatal opioid overdoses.” According to Nicholson, the state’s medical marijuana law has “drastically reduce[d] the number of fatal opioid overdoses” because it includes “chronic pain on the list of approved conditions.”

EXPERIENCE WITH PSYCHEDELICS LINKED TO DECREASED OPIOID ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE. The [Huffington Post](#) (2/24, Gregoire, 237K) reported that a study published in the Journal of Psychopharmacology “found that experience with psychedelics was linked with decreased opioid abuse and addiction — an effect that appears to be unique to hallucinogens and marijuana.” However, “use of other illegal drugs such as cocaine was associated with an increased risk of opioid abuse and dependence.”

BILLS REQUIRING LOCKED PRESCRIPTION BOTTLES FOR CERTAIN DRUGS PULLED IN MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY. The [Baltimore Sun](#) (2/25, McDaniels, 714K) reported that a bill to “require pharmacists” in Maryland “to dispense some drugs in lockable vials, such as those accessible by a password or fingerprint, quickly faced opposition in the General Assembly.” As a result, “bills in both the House and Senate were quickly pulled when critics complained about the cost and effectiveness of the idea.”

OPIOID PAIN RELIEVERS OFTEN NOT STORED SAFELY IN HOUSEHOLDS WITH CHILDREN, STUDY SUGGESTS. [Reuters](#) (2/24, Crist) reported that research indicates “opioid pain relievers...often aren’t stored safely in households with” kids. Investigators found that approximately “one in three parents with children under age 7 reported storing their opioid prescription by locking it up, and” approximately “one in 11 parents with children between ages 7 and 17 remembered storing their medicines properly.” The [findings](#) were published in JAMA Pediatrics.

Global Health:

OPINION: CHINA MUST UPDATE APPROACH TO PREVENTING BIRD FLU OUTBREAKS. Columnist Adam Minter writes at [Bloomberg View](#) (2/26, Minter, 125K) that China needs “to do far more” to fight H7N9 bird flu outbreaks. Minter notes that the country’s strategy of shutting down live poultry markets works, but suggests that the markets should “improve their safety practices” by separating “slaughtering zones from selling areas” and using easy-to-clean cages. He adds that Beijing should directly evaluate “local officials for how well they promote food safety in their jurisdictions.”

ENGLAND’S NHS LOSES HALF A MILLION CONFIDENTIAL PATIENT DOCUMENTS. [The Guardian \(UK\)](#) (2/26, Editor, Duncan, 4.07M) reports “thousands of patients” may have been harmed after NHS England “lost more than half a million pieces of confidential medical correspondence” that were “mistakenly stored...in a warehouse.” NHS “secretly assembled a 50-strong team of administrators, based in Leeds, to clear up the mess.” Though some lawmakers accuse NHS of engaging in a cover-up, a spokesperson for the Department of Health insists it has “been completely transparent while work has been ongoing to resolve this issue, with patient safety as ever our first priority.”

TWO OF INDIA’S LARGEST DRUGMAKERS BEHIND SCHEDULE AT INTEGRATING ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS. [Bloomberg News](#) (2/24, Altstedter, 2.41M) reported that officials at “two of India’s largest drug makers said integration of electronic systems to prevent quality lapses in factories is going slower than expected.” Speaking at the Indian Pharmaceutical Forum in Mumbai, officials from Lupin Ltd. and Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd. said their plans to

digitize were behind schedule.

National News:

AMID CALLS FOR SPECIAL PROSECUTOR, TRUMP SAYS “RUSSIA TALK IS FAKE NEWS.” The White House on Sunday continued to deny links between President Trump’s campaign and the Russian government while also saying it is too early to determine if Attorney General Sessions should recuse himself from an investigation into the issue. Media coverage focuses on President Trump’s tweeted comments about the issue and Congressional calls – including by Rep. Darrell Issa – for a special prosecutor to be appointed.

[Politico](#) (2/26, Conway, 2.46M) says that “after a weekend of thorny questions and barbed Democratic criticism surrounding ties” between his campaign and Russia, Trump “took to his favorite platform Sunday to fight back.” Trump [tweeted](#), according to [The Hill](#) (2/26, Savransky, 1.25M), “Russia talk is FAKE NEWS put out by the Dems, and played up by the media, in order to mask the big election defeat and the illegal leaks!”

The [AP](#) (2/26) reports the White House “is dodging questions” about whether Sessions should recuse himself from the investigation and the [Washington Post](#) (2/26, Wagner, 11.43M) says deputy press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders indicated it would be premature to conclude that the Attorney General should appoint a special prosecutor. Sanders said, “I don’t think we’re there yet. Let’s work through this process. You guys want to jump to the very end of the line.” Sanders added, “We’re confident whatever review that Congress wants to do, that’s the first step.” Sanders said on [ABC’s This Week](#) (2/26, Stephanopolous, 6.61M) that the Administration is “confident that” that any Congressional investigation is “going to come to the same conclusion – that we had no involvement in any of this.”

[ABC World News Tonight](#) (2/26, story 2, 1:55, Llamas, 14.63M) reported “calls for an independent prosecutor...[were] growing louder” on Sunday as “prominent Republican” Issa “weigh[ed] in” and called for a special prosecutor. Issa is shown saying, “You’re going to need to use the special prosecutor’s statute and office.” Issa added, according to [USA Today](#) (2/26, Jackson, 5.28M), that Sessions “can’t just give it to your deputy. That’s another political appointee.”

However, Kelly O’Donnell reported on [MSNBC’s Weekends with Alex Witt](#) (2/26, 222K) that “we’re not seeing any traction from other Republicans on that subject yet.” O’Donnell added, “That could come in time, but at this stage, we’re just not seeing it.” On [ABC’s This Week](#) (2/26, Stephanopolous, 6.61M) House Oversight Committee member Rep. Jim Jordan said the intelligence committees should be allowed to “work” on the investigation before a special prosecutor is needed. Jordan said, “If there’s more investigation that’s needed, I’m on the Oversight Committee, we’ve never been shy about digging into issues and we’ll do that. No one’s ever accused me of going easy on my own party.”

On [NBC’s Meet the Press](#) (2/26, Todd, 157K), Sen. Tom Cotton also urged allowing lawmakers to work through the process. Cotton said the Senate Intelligence Committee “has been examining Russia’s attempt to undermine our interests around the world” since he has been a member. Cotton added, “We have said that we will undertake in a bipartisan fashion an inquiry into everything that Russia tried to do in our election process last year. If that leads to potential contacts between Trump associates and the Russian government, then we’ll explore those, as well.” Cotton continued, “I am confident we’ll proceed wherever the facts take us.” [Politico](#) (2/26, Conway, 2.46M) reports that Cotton said the issue of a special prosecutor is “way, way, getting ahead of ourselves.” [NBC Nightly News](#) (2/26, story 2, 2:40, Snow, 16.61M) showed Cotton saying there are “no allegations of any crime occurring” and not “even indication there is criminal investigations under way by the FBI.”

[McClatchy](#) (2/25, Schofield, 74K) reports Congressional Democrats “are questioning whether

recent comments from leading Republicans, made at the request of the White House, have compromised" the lawmakers' investigations. McClatchy says both Sen. Richard Burr and Rep. Devin Nunes "have issued statements saying they have done nothing improper." Jack Langer, a spokesman for Nunes, said the congressman was not influenced by the White House request and his "comments were entirely appropriate."

The [Washington Times](#) (2/26, Richardson, 272K) says Democrats indicate that Chief of Staff Priebus' conversation with the FBI about the investigation "is the latest hindrance to an impartial investigation." [Reuters](#) (2/26, Chiacu) reports House Minority Leader Pelosi said Sessions "must recuse himself." Pelosi, on [ABC's This Week](#) (2/26, Stephanopolous, 6.61M) said, "You have seen a flurry of activities that are completely inappropriate, encouraging lawmakers, encouraging officials to say something is one way or another. Let's have the investigation and find out the truth. And we have been calling, we now have 100 Democrats plus one Republican on a bill for an outside, independent commission to study the personal, political, and financial relationship between President Trump and the Russians."

Brennan Calls For Congress To Investigate "With Vigor," "Bipartisan Support." [Bloomberg Politics](#) (2/26, Brody, 201K) reports former CIA Director Brennan called for Congressional committees to "pursue this investigation with vigor and with the appropriate amount of bipartisan support." Brennan said on CBS' "Face the Nation" that "it's very important that the investigation be done in a bipartisan fashion," adding, "If it's only one party that's going to be leading this, it is not going to deliver the results that the American people need and deserve."

Bloomberg's Talev: White House Communication "Ill Conceived," But Not "Nefarious." Margaret Talev of Bloomberg Politics said on [CNN Inside Politics](#) (2/26, 303K), "I'm not ready to describe nefarious effect to any of this. ... If we hear any hint or whisper that this Administration is laying heavily on the FBI, on the CIA, on other agencies to reach conclusions that they haven't reached, that's one thing. I think this is a sort of an ill conceived chain of communication, to try to figure out if all the stuff people were telling them behind the scenes could emerge in public on record."

Sattler: Time For Democrats "To Start Talking Impeachment." In a [USA Today](#) (2/26, 5.28M) op-ed, The National Memo columnist Jason Sattler says President Trump's efforts to influence investigations into his contacts with Russia are the equivalent of "Watergate with a Congress even more interested than the president in covering up potential high crimes and misdemeanors." Sattler says "it's time for Democrats to start talking impeachment" despite it being "less likely to happen under this Congress than the president giving up basic cable to learn Ancient Greek so he can read some Plutarch."

Protesters In Boston Demand Investigation. The [AP](#) (2/26) reports about 200 protesters in Boston on Sunday "demand[ed] an investigation into allegations" that Trump's campaign was in contact with Russia. The AP says the demonstrators "chanted slogans, waved signs and heard from speakers who said the public deserves to know about any ties between Trump's campaign and Russia."

LAWMAKERS HOPE TRUMP SPEECH WILL PROVIDE GUIDANCE ON KEY ISSUES. As President Trump prepares to deliver an address to a joint session of Congress on Tuesday, media coverage is largely neutral, focusing on the tone he will take and what lawmakers of both parties are expecting. For example, the [CBS Weekend News](#) (2/26, lead story, 2:50, Quijano) reported in its lead story that Republicans are looking to the address for "guidance on a host of key issues including health care and taxes." CBS (Barnett) added that CBS "Face the Nation" host John Dickerson "said Republicans want the President to issue detailed marching orders." Dickerson: "What they need is the President to advocate a clear policy on one of the big things he wants to take on, whether it's tax reform or the Affordable Care Act replacement, to make a case and to give them ammunition in their conversations, to sell that program to the public." The [AP](#) (2/26, Werner) similarly says Republicans "will be closely watching the prime-time address for

guidance, marching orders or any specifics Trump might embrace on health care or taxes, areas where some of his preferences remain a mystery."

Likewise, the [Washington Post](#) (2/26, Wagner, Debonis, 11.43M) says Trump "is under growing pressure from his own party to offer specifics on that front as well as on his pledge to provide sweeping tax reform." The address "will have ramifications far beyond Capitol Hill: It offers a president with sagging job-approval numbers an opportunity to recast his agenda for the American people and to change the focus of news coverage that has been dominated in recent days by stories about his campaign's contacts with Russia." However, whether he "will provide enough direction to satisfy fellow Republicans remains unclear." The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Peterson, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) cites White House officials who said Trump will highlight two of his legislative priorities: tax reform and repealing and replacing the ACA. The Journal adds that he will not advocate reducing spending on Social Security and Medicare.

In its "The Memo" column, [The Hill](#) (2/26, Stanage, 1.25M) cites "Republican insiders" who say Trump "may not be in the mood to play nice" Tuesday night as he seeks "to ensure that his campaign promises become law." The Hill says many GOP strategists "believe there is still considerable ambivalence about Trump among GOP lawmakers" and a "key question is how effective it would be for Trump to adopt a combative approach in the speech" as he "needs Congress to put his campaign promises into action."

[USA Today](#) (2/26, Jackson, 5.28M) reports that the speech will, "in many ways, set the stage for Trump's political agenda the rest of the year." Trump "is expected to focus on his plans for tax and regulation cuts, health care, border security, and jobs issues." In a separate story, [USA Today](#) (2/26, Hafner, Page, 5.28M) says the voters who elected Trump "have high hopes for how the new president is going to affect their lives" and highlights comments from its Trump Voter Panel, "drawn nationwide from respondents to the December USA TODAY/Suffolk University Poll."

[USA Today](#) (2/26, Jackson, 5.28M) also reports that Democrats "are expected to go after Trump's immigration and economic policies, as well as his attacks on the media and, in certain cases, the judiciary." The [New York Post](#) (2/26, Schultz, 3.82M) says that in "a political statement against his immigration policies," Democrats "have invited immigrants, refugees and Muslim Americans" to the address.

In a piece for the [Washington Post](#) (2/26, 11.43M), Hugh Hewitt offers a draft speech for "the president for use in preparing for Tuesday night." Hewitt writes that his draft is Trump's "style, but it's very much the content of what a Reagan Republican would love to hear."

Dionne Blasts Bannon's Call To Deconstruct The "Administrative State." In his [Washington Post](#) (2/26, 11.43M) column, E. J. Dionne calls White House chief strategist Stephen Bannon "the White House ideologue," and says his claim at CPAC that the "deconstruction of the administrative state" is one of the Administration's priorities is "a huge deal," and says it is "a war on a century's worth of work to keep our air and water clean; our food, drugs and workplaces safe; the rights of employees protected; and the marketplace fair and unrigged." Trump and Bannon, he adds, "are happy to expand the reach of the state when it comes to policing, immigration enforcement, executive-branch meddling in the work of investigative agencies, and the browbeating of individual companies that offend the president in one way or another," but they want to dismantle those parts of government "that stand on the side of citizens against powerful interests."

ADMINISTRATION PLANS EXECUTIVE ORDER TO AID HISTORICALLY BLACK

COLLEGES. [NBC Nightly News](#) (2/26, story 8, 2:30, Snow, 16.61M) reported that the Trump Administration plans to issue an executive order "aimed at helping historically black colleges and universities," many of which "are in a fight for survival now." NBC (Allen) went on to highlight the problems facing these institutions.

SPOKESWOMAN: TRUMP WASN'T ELECTED TO SPEND TIME WITH REPORTERS, CELEBRITIES. The [AP](#) (2/26) reports that according to the White House, when President Trump skips the White House Correspondents' Association dinner in April, he will spend that evening "focused on what he can do to help better America." Deputy press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders told ABC's "This Week" that Trump wasn't elected "to spend his time with reporters and celebrities." The [New York Post](#) (2/26, Schultz, 3.82M) quotes Huckabee Sanders as telling ABC, "There's no reason for him to go in and sit and pretend like this is going to be just another Saturday night."

SPICER MOVES TO CRACK DOWN ON WHITE HOUSE LEAKS. [Politico](#) (2/26, Karni, Isenstadt, 2.46M) reports that White House press secretary Sean Spicer is moving to crack down on leaks coming from the White House. The effort includes stepping up security measures, including "random phone checks of White House staffers, overseen by White House attorneys." The effort comes after Spicer last week learned that "information had leaked out of a planning meeting with about a dozen of his communications staffers." Spicer then "reconvened the group in his office to express his frustration over the number of private conversations and meetings that were showing up in unflattering news stories, according to sources in the room." Upon entering Spicer's office, "staffers were told to dump their phones on a table for a 'phone check,' to prove they had nothing to hide." Politico adds that Spicer "warned the group of more problems if news of the phone checks and the meeting about leaks was leaked to the media."

WSJOURNAL/NBC NEWS POLL: MORE THAN HALF SAY MEDIA IS TOO CRITICAL OF TRUMP. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Bellini, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports that a new Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll found that a little more than half of Americans think media coverage of Trump has been too critical. According to the poll, 51 percent said the media has been too critical of Trump since the election, while 41% said the coverage has been fair and objective and 6 percent said it has not been critical enough.

Historians Surprised By Trump's Use Of Term "Enemy Of The People" To Describe Media. The [New York Times](#) (2/26, Higgins, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that it is "difficult to know if President Trump is aware of the historic resonance" of the term "enemy of the people" and his decision to use it in "branding as enemies a segment of the American population – specifically representatives of what he calls the 'fake news' media" has "left some historians scratching their heads" as to why "the elected leader of a democratic nation embrace a label that, after the death of [Joseph] Stalin, even the Soviet Union found to be too freighted with sinister connotations." The Times goes on to provide a history of the term's use.

Cory Lewandowski said on [Fox News MediaBuzz](#) (2/26, 536K), "It is okay to get information from individuals who won't speak on the record. Maybe they are not giving you facts, but giving you their opinion. The difference is when you have on the record sources saying stories are unequivocally wrong, the media needs to understand that and do their due diligence and make sure they aren't perpetuating stories they know to be inaccurate."

Erin McPike, White House correspondent for the Independent Journal Review, said on [Fox News MediaBuzz](#) (2/26, 536K), "There is a big difference between anonymous sourcing and anonymous quotes. His claim journalists are making up anonymous sources is wrong. If you do that you will be fired."

Townhall Political Editor Guy Benson said on [Fox News MediaBuzz](#) (2/26, 536K), "I think in terms of journalistic best practices, it is good to sort of cut down on our diet of anonymous quotes, but anonymous sources and, quite frankly, some anonymous quotes are vital elements of journalism and Trump knows this. Trump has been an tea anonymous source many, many times."

Trump, CNN's Zucker Once Had "A Rapport." The [New York Times](#) (2/26, Grynbaum,

Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that CNN is “leaning into” its feud with President Trump, which it says is “fueled in part by the yearslong, up-and-down relationship between Mr. Trump and [CNN President Jeff] Zucker, two outspoken television addicts who once enjoyed a rapport.” They “have not spoken to each other since December...and the dispute has bled beyond questions of coverage into the realm of corporate intrigue” as CNN’s parent company, Time Warner, “is preparing for a takeover by AT&T that requires approval from Mr. Trump’s Justice Department.” The Times adds that “some current and former executives say the battle is win-win” providing “red meat for a Republican base angry at the mainstream press” and a ratings boost for CNN.

Tucker Carlson said on [Fox News MediaBuzz](#) (2/26, 536K) that CNN “has decided to be the anti-Trump network. I think the same thing with the Washington Post, the same with The New York Times. ... I think there has obviously been a decision at high levels, ‘This is how we are going to position ourselves. We are the opposition to Trump.’ That’s clearly how they are behaving and the Trump people don’t want to play along.”

Demonstrators March In Support Of Press. The [New York Times](#) (2/26, Nir, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that a “large crowd” gathered Sunday outside the Times’ headquarters in Manhattan “to defend the country’s press.” The demonstration, which was led by Get Organized BK, came “in response to President Trump’s decision on Friday to bar several news organizations from a White House briefing, including The Times.” As protesters “walked from The Times to the offices of Fox News and The Wall Street Journal, and then to NBC’s headquarters at 30 Rockefeller Plaza before returning to The Times building,” they “made it clear that they championed press freedom for all outlets, regardless of political leaning.” Also Sunday, the [Detroit News](#) (2/26, Brand-Williams, 473K) reports, some 220 people rallied outside the printing plant of the News and the Detroit Free Press “for newspapers and other news media to ‘protect’ the First Amendment” under the Trump Administration.

Trump Derides NYTimes’ Oscars Ad Before It Airs. According to [NBC Nightly News](#) (2/26, story 4, 0:30, Snow, 16.61M), the President continued “his attacks on news organizations” by deriding the New York Times’ 30-second commercial that aired during the Academy Awards. [NBC News](#) (2/26, 2.67M) reports President Trump [tweeted](#) the criticism early Sunday morning, before the ad had aired. The ad emphasizes that “the truth is more important now than ever,” in the face of the President’s claims that “journalism he disagrees with” is “fake news,” says NBC News.

FIRST LADY HOSTS GOVERNORS’ BALL AT WHITE HOUSE. The [AP](#) (2/26, Thomas) reports that President Trump “welcomed 46 governors and their spouses to the annual Governors’ Ball at the White House, the first major social event” of his Administration. The President congratulated the First Lady “on the elegant candle-lit event in the State Dining Room, telling the audience, ‘The room, they say, has never looked better, but who knows.’”

[USA Today](#) (2/26, Puente, 5.28M) reports that the First Lady “played hostess Sunday for her first formal soirée at the White House, the annual Governors Ball, where triumphant Republicans celebrated while most everyone else outside Washington focused on the Oscars. The glittery goings on in Los Angeles somewhat overshadowed the glittery gloating at the White House, but maybe that was a good thing” for the First Lady, “who’s still shyly feeling her way around her new role as a part-time FLOTUS.” The First Lady “said the party had a ‘Spring’s Renewal’ theme and ‘the scents of jasmine and roses fill the air as we give thanks for this great nation and the glory of renewal.’”

The [Washington Post](#) (2/26, Heil, 11.43M) reports the First Lady “indicated that the evening was meant to be a purely social affair – no working allowed.” In a statement on Sunday afternoon, she said, “I am proud to invite all the governors to the White House for this important annual event. Tonight, we come together as one Nation, leaving political labels and partisan interests behind.” However, “a few hours later, her husband seemed to have a very different idea of the

agenda. 'Much to be discussed, including healthcare,' the president tweeted."

[TIME](#) (2/26, Farber, 6.98M) reports on its website that White House press secretary Sean Spicer said last week, "Mrs. Trump looks forward to putting on a phenomenal event, and the First Lady has put a lot of time into this event that's going to occur in welcoming our nation's governors to the Capitol." [The Inquisitr](#) (2/26, Mooney, 140K) has photos from the event, while [The Week](#) (2/26, Kristian, 1.76M) and the [Daily Mail](#) (2/26, Schwab, 4.59M) also have reports.

AS LAWMAKERS RETURN TO THE HILL, BOTH PARTIES SEEK TO MAKE SENSE OF "TUMULT BACK HOME." The [New York Times](#) (2/26, Flegenheimer, Kaplan, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that as lawmakers return this week from recess, both parties "are straining to make sense of the tumult back home." Democrats are working to "translat[e] boiling constituent anger into local and national political results...buoyed more by outside progressive organizers than any cohesive strategy from leaders in Washington," while Republicans are left with a "more urgent challenge as they seek to demonstrate the fruits of one-party control in the White House and on Capitol Hill: determining whether the fury directed at lawmakers is more than anecdotal, and how to react accordingly."

[USA Today](#) (2/26, Kelly, 5.28M) highlights the task before Congress as they return, saying while lawmakers are coming back "to tackle an ambitious agenda to replace Obamacare, lower taxes, fund a Southwest border wall, boost military spending and approve up to \$1 trillion to rebuild the nation's aging roads, bridges and dams," leaders "have so far offered few details of how they plan to get it all done."

Christie: Republican Lawmakers Should Not Avoid Town Hall Meetings. New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie urged Republican lawmakers not to avoid holding town hall meetings despite the possibility of being confronted by protesters, the [Washington Post](#) (2/26, Debonis, 11.43M) reports. Christie said, "I understand why members of Congress don't like it. ... But you know what? You asked for the job. Go do it. ... Welcome to the real world of responsibility," Christie said. "The fact is that, right now, the heat is on the Republicans. It's on us. ... We now have two-thirds of the statehouses in America. We have the House. We have the Senate. We have the White House. It's now on us to produce results. And one of the things that we need to do is engage with the public."

Politico Analysis: Lawmakers "Learning To Shrug Off" Some Trump Statements. [Politico](#) (2/25, Dawsey, 2.46M) reports that lawmakers "are learning to shrug off President Donald Trump's penchant for embracing and repeating incorrect information." When Trump "makes public declarations that aren't true or clash with what his Cabinet secretaries say, Republicans barely look up," and "some Democrats are now trying to assess if pointing out a misstatement will get any traction." Republican lawmakers "are starting to get desensitized, even if they don't like his misstatements" and White House aides "have even shrugged off some of his comments to them, several GOP Capitol Hill sources say." Politico adds, however, that Trump's comments "still send shockwaves across the globe."

WPOST ANALYSIS: TRUMP'S CABINET CHARGED WITH "CLEANING UP" TRUMP'S STATEMENTS. The [Washington Post](#) (2/26, Parker, 11.43M) reports that among the "unofficial duties" of President Trump's Cabinet seems to be "cleaning up the statements of the man they serve." Trump's deputies "have found themselves softening, explaining and sometimes outright contradicting the president." According to the Post, the "yawning gulf between Trump and his agency heads has added to the sense of chaos and turmoil emanating from the White House, sending his secretaries scrambling to interpret their boss's exact positions and leaving other nations confused as to who, exactly, speaks on behalf of the administration."

CHRISTIE SAYS WHITE HOUSE MUST BE MORE AWARE OF "PERCEPTION." In an appearance on CNN's "State of the Union" Sunday New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie said that the Trump Administration must "be more mindful of 'perception,'" the [Washington Post](#) (2/26,

Debonis, 11.43M) reports. Discussing "reports that White House chief of staff Reince Priebus had asked a top FBI official to dispute reports about the bureau's investigation into alleged links between Trump's campaign and Russia," Christie "said Priebus and other administration officials need to be more careful about their contacts with investigators." Said Christie, "I don't think that Reince thought he was doing anything wrong, I really don't. ... And I have absolute confidence in his integrity. But you need to have the sensibility of a prosecutor when you're dealing with these issues, because perception matters."

CHAO TO NGA: AGREEMENT ON PAYING FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS WILL BE DIFFICULT. [Bloomberg Politics](#) (2/26, Niquette, 201K) reports that Transportation Secretary Chao on Sunday told the National Governor's Association that while the White House is working on plans for improving the nation's infrastructure, "agreeing on how to pay for expensive new projects won't be easy." According to Chao, that while "there's a number of ways to fund critical upgrades," there is not "consensus across the political spectrum, so there needs to be national agreement on getting a plan approved." Chao said, "Everybody wants a better transportation system, but very few people want to pay for it, so that's a big conundrum. ... There will be a lot of discussion about pay-fors, and that's going to be a tremendous challenge." Chao added that "the administration is open to ideas, and that Trump looks forward to hearing from the governors on their ideas."

CHAO: SELF-DRIVING CAR RULES UNDER REVIEW, INDUSTRY SHOULD EDUCATE "SKEPTICAL PUBLIC." [Reuters](#) (2/26, Shepardson) reports Transportation Secretary Chao indicated Sunday that the department has put Obama-era guidance on self-driving cars under review and aims to "amend it, to ensure that it strikes the right balance," in her first major public remarks in office. Chao said the department should be a "catalyst" for the technology that has the potential to significantly improve safety, and she called on "Silicon Valley, Detroit, and all other auto industry hubs" to "educate a skeptical public" about its benefits.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE SURVEYS REFLECT PARTISAN DIVISIONS. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Zumbun, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports that since President Trump's election consumer confidence surveys have broken down along party lines more than ever before. While most measures indicate little change in how the economy is behaving, confidence among Republicans has climbed while it has fallen among Democrats.

WSJournal Analysis: Investors May Be Losing Confidence In Reflation Trade. A [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Zeng, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) analysis says that stock and bond prices are both rising in a change from last year when investors were buying stocks and selling bonds in anticipation that a large fiscal stimulus from President Trump would result in faster growth and higher inflation. According to the Journal, the fact that stocks and bonds are now moving together investors are losing confidence in this so-called reflation trade.

TRUMP POLICIES COME UNDER FIRE AT OSCARS CEREMONY. According to the [CBS Weekend News](#) (2/26, story 5, 2:00, Quijano), two Middle Eastern filmmakers would not attend the Academy Awards Sunday night. The Iranian director Ashgar Farhadi of "The Salesman" was boycotting President Trump's travel ban, and Syrian authorities confiscated the passport of cinematographer Khaled Khatib, who filmed "White Helmets" for Netflix, although the US did give him permission to attend the Oscars. [NBC Nightly News](#) (2/26, story 5, 2:15, Snow, 16.61M) reported that Meryl Streep may once again have the opportunity to criticize Trump on stage and said that the nominees for Best Foreign Language Film had issued a statement in opposition to the political tone in the US. The directors said they would dedicate the award to "global unity" regardless of who won.

The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Schwartzel, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) says Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences President Cheryl Boone Isaacs lauded the diversity of this year's nominees, saying that "art has no borders, art has no single language and art does not belong to a single faith." Wins by Mahershala Ali and Viola Davis mark the first time since 2007

that two minority actors have won in the same year. According to the [Miami Herald](#) (2/26, Hadley, 856K), Suicide Squad make-up and hair designer Alessandro Bertolazzi used his Oscar acceptance speech to dedicate his award to "all the immigrants," but best supporting actor Mahershala Ali, the first Muslim to win an Oscar, "did not address politics in his acceptance speech." The Herald also notes the statements by presenter García Bernal against the border wall and by Asghar Farhadi, in absentia, for his win.

[USA Today](#) (2/26, Puente, 5.28M) says Farhadi's boycott was the "first strong, serious objection" to Trump's travel ban, Sunday night at the latest ceremony in "Hollywood's annual orgy of self-congratulation." USA Today also reports the ACLU was distributing blue ribbon pins for celebrities "to express their support for the rights and civil liberties guaranteed by the Constitution," and many enthusiastically partook. Recalling the Vietnam War controversy, USA Today says the political tone of the 2017 Oscars is notable only for being "especially poisonous," and Moonlight Director Barry Jenkins said, "I think art is inherently political."

The [Washington Times](#) (2/26, Morton, 272K) reports Jimmy Kimmel began his Oscars hosting duties by "promptly" calling President Trump a racist and emphasizing "the importance of having a serious conversation with someone who disagrees with you." Kimmel also "tried to bait Mr. Trump into tweeting about the Oscars," saying he was "worried" Trump had yet to comment on the ceremony. According to the [Los Angeles Times](#) (2/26, Ali, 4.52M), Kimmel's approach was "lighthearted and mild."

Rutenberg: Hollywood Should Direct Its "Political Energy Back At Itself." Media columnist Jim Rutenberg writes for the [New York Times](#) (2/26, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) that despite the Oscars being dominated by politics this year, Hollywood is inclusive "to a woeful degree." Although there were more minority nominees and winners this year, most aspects of the movie industry are still by and large dominated by white males, writes Rutenberg. He says that while high numbers of minority nominees may not soon become a trend, "the slow realization that diversity can result in box office results" has begun to open doors for many actors who do not conform to Hollywood stereotypes. Rutenberg concludes that "Hollywood's judgment would go a lot further if it directed some of [its] political energy back at itself."

Pro-Trump Protesters: "Celebrities Don't Speak For Us." The [Los Angeles Times](#) (2/26, Mejia, 4.52M) reports "a small group" of pro-Trump protesters rallied Sunday at 1 p.m. at a Metro station near the Oscars ceremony at the Dolby Theatre. Organized by Trump Celebration, the group chanted "Celebrities don't speak for us" and "Hollywood, don't divide us," and one demonstrator said entertainers should "go back to...entertaining." Passersby "shouted a mix of encouraging and derogatory statements."

TRUMP, DNC CHIEF PEREZ TRADE JABS OVER "RIGGED" ELECTION. The [Los Angeles Times](#) (2/26, King, 4.52M) reports that in a Sunday [tweet](#), President Trump said the DNC chair race "had been 'rigged' – drawing a quick riposte from" new DNC chief Tom Perez. Trump tweeted, "The race for DNC Chairman was, of course, totally 'rigged.' Bernie's guy, like Bernie himself, never had a chance. Clinton demanded Perez!" Appearing Sunday on CNN, Perez, who on Saturday defeated Rep. Keith Ellison (D-MN) and several others to win the DNC post, said "that Trump should address questions about Russian interference in the 2016 presidential campaign rather than concerning himself with the DNC leadership battle. 'Frankly, what we need to be looking at is whether this election was rigged by Donald Trump and his buddy Vladimir Putin,' he said."

The [Washington Times](#) (2/26, Richardson, 272K) reports that Perez's "groundless insinuation of foul play came just hours after Mr. Trump levied his own accusation of election-rigging at the Democratic Party." [Politico](#) (2/26, Conway, 2.46M) reported that Perez "dismissed Trump's tweet," saying on CNN, "Congressman Ellison and I got a good kick out of that," adding, "Donald Trump, up in the morning tweeting about us. You know, our unity as a party is our greatest strength and it's his worst nightmare."

[Roll Call](#) (2/26, Staff, 63K) reported that during his appearance on CNN, Perez described Trump “as a fraud.” Of Trump, Perez said, “Literally hours into the Trump Administration, he was a fraud,” adding, “He made it harder for first-time homebuyers to buy a home...days later he made it harder to save for retirement.”

Under the headline “New Dem Party Chairman Perez Pledges To Repair, Unite Party,” the [AP](#) (2/26, Yen, Barrow) reports that during a series of Sunday TV appearances, Perez vowed “to unite a fractured party, rebuild at all levels from ‘school board to the Senate’ and reach out to chunks of rural America left feeling forgotten in the 2016 election.”

Weigel: Ellison Lost Because DNC Members Weren’t Prepared “To Reject The Obama Legacy.” Writing for the [Washington Post](#) (2/26, 11.43M), David Weigel discusses why Ellison came up short in the DNC race, saying “a few converging factors blunted his momentum.” Weigel said, “DNC members were not ready to reject the Obama legacy. ... To the Obama administration veterans who backed Perez, and urged him into the race, Ellison and [Sen. Bernie] Sanders had criticized their policies without achieving anything of their own. They easily won over DNC members who agreed.” Weigel said, “Perez closed the ideological gap in the party, and Ellison let him.” Weigel added, “A persistent smear campaign cost Ellison votes.”

Dionne: In Uniting Democrats, Trump Will Be Perez’s “Biggest Ally.” E.J. Dionne said on [MSNBC AM Joy](#) (2/26), “I think Tom Perez’s biggest ally is Donald Trump because no matter how divided and how much sort of bad feeling there still is from the 2016 race, there is real unity on the need to stop and push back Donald Trump.”

In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) says that Perez’s victory signals that the Democrats’ Obama wing still controls the most power in the party. The Journal says it also means that in the 2018 midterm elections, Democrats will be planning to reassemble the Obama coalition in complete opposition to Trump. Democrats, the Journal adds, are banking on Trump being unsuccessful in governing, which would allow the party to make gains without reassessing its political approach.

Sanders Won’t Commit To Turn Over His Email List Of Donors To DNC. The [New York Post](#) (2/26, Schultz, 3.82M) reports that Sen. Bernie Sanders “wouldn’t commit on Sunday to turning over his email list of progressive activists to the” DNC – “a group he dubbed the ‘establishment’s house.’” Asked “twice” during his appearance on CNN “whether he’d share his distribution list to help unite the Democratic Party, Sanders declined to commit,” saying “he’ll focus on activism among certain candidates who share a progressive message. ‘We are going to do everything that we can – and we have started that progress – to transform the Democratic Party into a party that stands up for working families,’ Sanders said,” adding, “So we are going to work to support progressives who are running for the Senate, who are running for the House, who are running...for school board, for city council, for state legislature.”

[Reuters](#) (2/26, Mutikani, Chiacu) reports that during a Sunday appearance on CNN, Sanders “urged a major overhaul of [the Democratic Party], calling for more aggressive efforts to court working-class voters and fight big businesses from Wall Street to the pharmaceutical sector.” Said Sanders, “We need a total transformation,” adding, “We need to open up the party to working people, to young people and make it crystal clear that the Democratic Party is going to take on Wall Street, it’s going to take on the greed of the pharmaceutical industry, it’s going to take on corporate America that is shutting down plants in this country and moving our jobs abroad.”

Cillizza: “Losers” In DNC Chair Race Were Sanders And Warren, GOP. Writing for the [Washington Post](#) (2/26, 11.43M), Chris Cillizza offered his list of the “winners” and “losers” of the DNC race. Among the “winners” were Perez; South Bend, IN Mayor Pete Buttigieg, who “won rave reviews during the contest with his emphasis on middle America and how Democrats can

start winning there again"; and South Carolina Democratic Party chief Jaime Harrison. The "losers," among others, are Sanders and Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), "[t]he two most prominent voices for liberals in Washington," who "made a show of force with very early endorsements of Ellison"; and the GOP, as "Republicans had been open about their hopes that Ellison would win," thinking "his strongly liberal record and past controversies would give them a useful punching bag for years to come."

WSJournal: Burgeoning Clout Of Liberals Apparent During DNC Election. The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Epstein, Hook, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) reports that while Ellison's loss in the DNC chair race disappointed progressives, the growing clout of the left wing was apparent during the contest. The Journal says progressive activists vowed to back primary challenges to Democrats viewed as insufficiently liberal; they also pressed the party to restrict corporate donations to the DNC.

NYTIMES ANALYSIS: PERRIELLO TRANSFORMS DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY "INTO A TEST" OF ANTI-TRUMP SENTIMENT. In a report on the 2017 race to succeed term-limited Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe (D), the [New York Times](#) (2/26, Martin, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) focuses on the Democratic primary battle between Lt. Gov. Ralph Northam and ex-Rep. Tom Perriello. Saying that Perriello is making opposition to President Trump the focus of his candidacy, the Times adds that "by trying to nationalize the race and make it a referendum on the depth of opposition to Mr. Trump," the former congressman "has transformed the primary into a test of whether the boiling liberal rage toward the new president can be harnessed to win a state campaign. And if he is successful in bending an election that usually revolves around taxes, transportation and education toward the divisive" Trump, Perriello "will have sketched out a new strategy for Democrats during the Trump administration that is sure to be mimicked in the party's primaries in next year's midterm elections."

DEMOCRATIC GOVERNORS ARGUE PARTY COMEBACK HINGES ON JOB CREATION. The [New York Times](#) (2/26, Burns, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports, "As Democrats battle President Trump on a multiplying array of issues...a group of Democratic governors is pressing the party to set one concern above all the rest: jobs." During the National Governors Association meeting in Washington, DC, Democratic governors "expressed optimism that Mr. Trump had opened the way for a Democratic comeback by governing from the hard right and in a haphazard manner. But they also warned that voters might not embrace Democrats as an alternative to Mr. Trump unless they presented themselves convincingly as champions of job creation." For example, Gov. Gina Raimondo (D-RI) "said her party had too often failed to put jobs and economic opportunity at the forefront of its agenda."

MANCHIN INVITES SANDERS BACKERS TO FIELD PRIMARY CHALLENGER AGAINST HIM. [Politico](#) (2/24, DeBenedetti, 2.46M) reported that Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV) "invited Bernie Sanders supporters to mount a primary challenge against him in a Friday phone call with West Virginians." Politico said, "The conference call, which involved several political activists, was recorded by one of the activists." Politico said that as some of those on the call pressed Manchin to hold town hall – "and activists...brought up points of disagreement with the senator – Manchin exclaimed, 'What you ought to do is vote me out. Vote me out! I'm not changing. Find somebody else who can beat me and vote me out.' 'Is that an invitation or a threat? I don't understand,' responded one of the activists. 'Sure, it's an invitation, you ought to. I can tell that, because we're on different pages. Are you a Bernie Sanders guy?', asked" Manchin. After the activist said he was, Manchin replied, "Bernie Sanders is not even a Democrat."

[The Hill](#) (2/25, Greenwood, 1.25M) reported on the Politico story, and added that Manchin, "a moderate who has broken with his party on several issues, is one of the ten Democrats up for reelection next year in states that President Trump won in the 2016 election."

GROUP'S VIDEO LIKENS CUOMO TO TRUMP ON EDUCATION POLICY. The [New York Daily News](#) (2/26, Lovett, 4.45M) reported, "With about a month until a new state budget is due, a

public education advocacy group seeking to dramatically boost school funding is set to unleash an attack video" that likens New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) "to President Trump. The 90-second Alliance for Quality Education video, which is part of a digital and social media campaign," points out "that Trump's controversial Education Secretary Betsy DeVos praised Cuomo, among others, for his support of charter schools," then pivots to "clips of Cuomo and Trump using similar language when discussing education issues," such as "how the education system is well funded and should be supporting students, not the bureaucracy. And both support charter school expansion. 'Trump and Cuomo use the same talking points to sell the same policies attacking public schools,' the video says while promoting a statewide 'people's march for education justice' on March 4." Cuomo faces reelection in 2018.

ANNOUNCING 2018 REELECTION RUN, WHITEHOUSE BLASTS TRUMP. The [Providence \(RI\) Journal](#) (2/26, Gregg, 386K) reports that Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) on Sunday announced that he'll seek reelection in 2018. Addressing "an estimated 300 cheering supporters" in Providence, Whitehouse took aim at President Trump, bemoaning "the current state of the nation with a 'president who traffics in alternative facts...takes the side of fake news,' and distorts the beliefs that sent Whitehouse's own father to war in the 1940s and later to a career in the CIA and the state department." Said Whitehouse, "How is it that the most economically favored Americans on Wall Street fight in Washington to win tax rates for themselves that are lower than the people who work for them. ... How is it that America's elections – the working symbol of our democracy – are now polluted with dark money and unlimited special interest influence [and] even Russian interference?"

DAKOTA ACCESS PIPELINE SET TO OPEN WITHIN WEEKS, AHEAD OF SCHEDULE. The [Washington Times](#) (2/24, Richardson, 272K) reports a report filed by Energy Transfer Partners attorneys Thursday indicated the Dakota Access pipeline project is ahead of schedule, with an estimated flow date for oil between March 6 and April 1. According to the Standing Rock Sioux and Cheyenne River Sioux, their lawsuit "doesn't become irrelevant if they turn on the tap, because [the judge] can always direct them to turn it off." The Times says US District Court Judge James A. Boasberg set a March 23 deadline for the Army Corps and ETP to respond to the tribes' request for "summary judgment."

COAL INDUSTRY VOICES CONCERN ABOUT GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. The [New York Times](#) (2/26, Krauss, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) reports that the nation's three largest coal producers, Cloud Peak Energy, Peabody Energy, and Arch Coal, in a bid to "shore up their struggling industry" are "voicing greater concern about greenhouse gas emissions." In an effort to "frame a new image for coal as a contributor, not an obstacle, to a clean-energy future," executives from the companies "are going so far as to make common cause with some of their harshest critics, including the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Clean Air Task Force," and "lobbying for a tax bill to expand government subsidies to reduce the environmental impact of coal burning."

NYTIMES ANALYSIS: DE BLASIO HAS "NO CREDIBLE CHALLENGER" FOR PRIMARY. According to the [New York Times](#) (2/26, Goodman, Subscription Publication, 13.9M), New York Mayor Bill de Blasio has "no credible challenger" within the Democratic Party for the September primary election, despite having approval ratings below 50 percent almost eight months ago. The Times notes that some potential challengers would have to step down from their current office to run, while others are waiting to see what comes of the federal investigations of the mayor's administration. Still others are reluctant because de Blasio is "progressive enough" but not too far left, says one political science scholar, and "he doesn't have exploitable weaknesses," says another expert.

IN SHIFT, CELEBRITIES RETAINING ENDORSEMENTS DESPITE POLITICAL STATEMENTS. According to the [New York Times](#) (2/26, Schonbrun, Subscription Publication, 13.9M), sports agent Leigh Steinberg calls the situation of Stephen Curry criticizing Under Armour CEO Kevin Plank's compliment of President Trump is a sign that endorsers' personal brands'

allure increasingly outweigh the company they stump for. In contrast with past athlete endorsers' choice to be "scrupulously apolitical," Curry's decision was calculated and received tremendous support and a full-page ad in The Baltimore Sun by Plank to explain his comments. The Times says that with more endorsers politically implicated, companies will have to decide whether celebrities are "ultimately worth it if they don't see eye to eye."

UCLA STUDY: DC SCHOOLS ARE STILL HIGHLY SEGREGATED. The [Washington Post](#) (2/26, McLaren, 11.43M) reports the UCLA Civil Rights Project report released this month shows 71 percent of black students in DC public and charter schools in 2013 "had virtually no white peers," down from 90 percent in 1992. Co-authors Gary Orfield and Jongyeon Ee say District officials have not done enough to attract white families to such schools, and they add that schools affected by racial segregation are often populated by students of low-income families, which constitutes "double segregation." One recommendation to increase diversity is to create regional schools by collaborating with other school systems in the metropolitan area.

WPost: DC Accountability Plan "Places A Muscular Emphasis On Academic Outcomes." The [Washington Post](#) (2/26, 11.43M) editorializes that the January plan released by the DC Office of the State Superintendent effectively tempers the rigidity of No Child Left Behind but still "places a muscular emphasis on academic outcomes." It addresses school ratings, student performance, equal weighting of proficiency and growth, attendance, re-enrollment, graduation rates, and AP and IB performance. The Post writes that a main advantage over the current system lies in the provision that applies "a rigorous system" to both public and charter schools that would adequately allow parents to "compare [schools'] strengths and weaknesses." Though it anticipates resistance, the Post says the DC State Board of Education "must stand firm on the principle" of measuring accountability by outcomes.

TRANSGENDER HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLER WINS GIRLS' CHAMPIONSHIP. According to the [CBS Weekend News](#) (2/26, story 9, 2:00, Quijano), the winner of Texas' high school girls' wrestling championship Mack Beggs would have preferred to compete in the male competition, but he was prohibited by state law because his birth certificate identifies him as a girl. He identifies as a girl and takes testosterone for his transition. The mother of one of his competitors says the situation is unfair for Beggs because he would like more competition or his competitors because they are at a disadvantage. [NBC Nightly News](#) (2/26, story 9, 2:10, Snow, 16.61M) reported Athlete Ally founder and executive director Hudson Taylor said, "In the ideal world, every athlete should be able to compete with a gender with which they identify" in response to the situation.

TOWN & COUNTRY: WHITE HOUSE BEHIND ON EASTER EGG ROLL PLANNING. [Town & Country](#) (2/24, Burger, 16.56M) wrote that the White House Easter Egg Roll "looms on April 17 as the first big test of the Trump White House's ability to hit the logistical ground running," and "may also reveal something of the sphinx-like First Lady Melania Trump's vision of her role." The 2016 event "involved some 37,000 guests," but "as of this week, the first step in the process, the complex ticket lottery, has not yet happened. Though Easter was earlier last year, the ticket lottery had been completed by late February." While "experts say there is still time to pull it off," the "conspicuous lack of activity suggests that the Trump White House at this point is either well behind on its planning or secretly taking the event in a new direction."

FINANCE PROFESSOR: PHILOSOPHER FORESAW 2016 CAMPAIGN, REACTION IN 1970 ESSAY. In a [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) op-ed, McGill University finance professor Reuven Brenner writes that a 1970 essay philosopher Eric Hoffer wrote for the New York Times presaged the present-day denunciation of President Trump supporters as "deplorables" and the political events of 2016. Hoffer argued that a young self-proclaimed intellectual elite that thrived on college campuses was problematic in that it wanted to influence American affairs by using government funding to solve race relations, violence, and drugs, but the common man knew this was ineffective. Brenner notes the importance of the Founding Fathers' foresight regarding the potential for institutional checks and balances to stem long-term political

decline provoked by affluent youth.

SAMUELSON: ERA OF TRUMP IS AN “ERA OF DISBELIEF.” In his column for the [Washington Post](#) (2/26, 11.43M), Robert Samuelson calls the current era a time of “disbelief” because “millions of Americans no longer believe what they once believed.” He singles out three major policy departures for the Administration: President Trump’s intention to boost GDP growth by three percent through tax cuts, reduced regulation, and trade policy; a more isolationist stature promoting favorable trade agreements and relying on allies to chip in more for defense costs; and a desire to dismantle the welfare state, though Samuelson says these plans are the “fuzziest.” Samuelson counts himself among Trump’s skeptics of the President’s ability to effect economic change and maintain global stability through isolationism. He calls this an “era of disbelief” because there is so much “in flux” that “we are increasingly governed by disruptive surprises.”

WPOST: STATE “COMPLACENCY” HAS LED TO SPIKE IN ROAD FATALITIES. In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (2/26, 11.43M) says the increase in vehicle fatalities, which in 21015 and 2016 saw “the biggest two-year spike since the 1960s,” is “very much impelled by the conduct of drivers and, critically, what government, particularly state government, is and isn’t doing.” According to the Post, “complacency has led lawmakers to fritter away the gains made in roadway safety, mainly from technological improvements in cars and light trucks...by easing up or turning a blind eye on traffic rules and enforcement, including for seat belts, speeding and drunken driving.” The Post advocates “muscular laws and enforcement, including more speed cameras and tougher rules for seat belts, drunken driving and smartphone use,” arguing that without them “and a greater focus to increase public awareness, the carnage will only increase.”

Editorial Wrap-Up:

NEW YORK TIMES. “Missing: Donald Trump’s Trillion-Dollar Infrastructure Plan.” A [New York Times](#) (2/27, Board, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) editorial says President Trump’s “pledge to put his self-described talents as a builder to work by spending \$1 trillion on restoring the country’s crumbling” infrastructure could benefit the country, but “more than a month into his presidency, no such plan has emerged, and there are no signs that one is coming anytime soon.” The Times says “at the current pace, Mr. Trump’s American greatness project may never get off the ground, remaining no more than a slogan on red hats, a testament to the emptiness of his populist promises to help the forgotten workers.”

“Mental Illness, Untreated Behind Bars.” In an editorial, the [New York Times](#) (2/27, Board, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) says that “some states are working to break the recidivism cycle by making sure that inmates are signed up for Medicaid when they are released, so that they can have access to proper medication and care.” The Times argues that “while that’s important, it’s even more critical that the federal government do away with rules that prevent inmates from receiving Medicaid assistance.” Denying inmates care “is both inhumane and more costly to taxpayers in the long run.”

“Kansas’ Trickle-Down Flood Of Red Ink.” The [New York Times](#) (2/27, Board, Subscription Publication, 13.9M) editorializes that tax cuts made in Kansas five years ago “have not moved employers to invest and hire more; the state budget is now flooded with red ink. Kansans have become alarmed at years of deep deficits,” and state lawmakers just approved “a \$1 billion tax increase over two years.” The Times argues that the state should serve as an example to Congressional Republicans.

WASHINGTON POST. “The District’s Smart Plan For School Accountability.” The [Washington Post](#) editorializes that the January plan released by the D.C. Office of the State Superintendent effectively tempers the rigidity of No Child Left Behind but still “places a muscular emphasis on academic outcomes.” It addresses school ratings, student performance, equal weighting of proficiency and growth, attendance, re-enrollment, graduation rates, and AP and IB performance. The Post writes that a main advantage over the current system lies in the provision

that applies “a rigorous system” to both public and charter schools that would adequately allow parents to “compare [schools’] strengths and weaknesses.” Though it anticipates resistance, the Post says the D.C. State Board of Education “must stand firm on the principle” of measuring accountability by outcomes.

“Road Fatalities Are Soaring. Here’s How To Stop That.” In an editorial, the [Washington Post](#) (2/26, 11.43M) says the increase in vehicle fatalities, which in 2015 and 2016 saw “the biggest two-year spike since the 1960s,” is “very much impelled by the conduct of drivers and, critically, what government, particularly state government, is and isn’t doing.” According to the Post, “complacency has led lawmakers to fritter away the gains made in roadway safety, mainly from technological improvements in cars and light trucks...by easing up or turning a blind eye on traffic rules and enforcement, including for seat belts, speeding and drunken driving.” The Post advocates “muscular laws and enforcement, including more speed cameras and tougher rules for seat belts, drunken driving and smartphone use,” arguing that without them “and a greater focus to increase public awareness, the carnage will only increase.”

“Trump Is Already Losing The Long-Term Fight In Iraq.” The [Washington Post](#) editorializes that President Trump “has significantly worsened the chances for success” in Iraq. The Post says that while the Obama Administration “deserves blame for sidestepping Iraq’s political challenges,” Trump “has quickly exacerbated the trouble” with “repeated suggestions that the United States might seize Iraq’s oil fields have alienated forces across the political spectrum.” In addition, the Post says, Trump’s decision to include Iraq on the list of countries from which immigrants are restricted has led to some Iraqis calling for US troops to be expelled from the country.

WALL STREET JOURNAL. “A National Right To Life.” In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) writes that Sen. Ron Johnson’s right-to-try legislation is an effective way to provide an alternative treatment path for terminally ill patients because it prohibits the FDA from restricting access to unapproved treatments and increases companies’ incentives to participate by forbidding the FDA from using right-to-try data for its decision about a medicine’s approval.

“The Perez Democrats.” In an editorial, the [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) says that new DNC Chairman Tom Perez’s victory signals that the Democrats’ Obama wing still controls the most power in the party. The Journal says it also means that in the 2018 midterm elections, Democrats will be planning to reassemble the Obama coalition in complete opposition to Trump. Democrats, the Journal adds, are banking on Trump being unsuccessful in governing, which would allow the party to make gains without reassessing its political approach.

“Ann Ravel’s Loud Departure.” The [Wall Street Journal](#) (2/26, Subscription Publication, 6.37M) editorializes that President Trump and Republicans should refrain from moving away from tradition, which calls for a party to appoint an FEC Commissioner when one of its selections leaves the position, and allow Democrats to appoint Ann Ravel’s replacement. The Journal takes this position despite feeling that Ravel tried to inappropriately push a Democratic agenda on the non-partisan body and says Trump should press Democrats to name an appointee who respects the First Amendment.

The Big Picture:

HEADLINES FROM TODAY’S FRONT PAGES.

Wall Street Journal:

[GOP Leaders Dare Fellow Republicans To Block Obamacare Repeal](#)
[Bond Market Is Flashing Warning Signal On Trump Reflation Trade](#)
[The World’s Most Radical Experiment In Monetary Policy Isn’t Working](#)
[Facing Criticism, Drug Makers Keep Lid On Price Increases](#)

New York Times:

[Trump To Ask For Sharp Increases In Military Spending, Officials Say](#)
[Why De Blasio Might As Well Be Running Unopposed](#)
[Trump Embraces "Enemy Of The People," A Phrase With A Fraught History](#)
[Assailing The White House From Hollywood's Glass House](#)
[He's A Local Pillar In A Trump Town. Now He Could Be Deported.](#)
[One Of Atlanta's Last Stores On Wheels Navigates A World Of Change](#)
[Oscars 2017: And The Winner Is... "Moonlight" — Not "La La Land"](#)

Washington Post:

[White House In Flux On ACA](#)
[In Trinidad, A Carnival Song Emerges As Feminist Anthem](#)
[Mixed Feelings In Trump Land](#)
[Tax Dollars In DC Flow To Problem Landlord](#)

Financial Times:

[Le Pen's Online Army Leads Fight For French Presidency](#)
[More Than One In 10 Staff At US Banks Work In Asia](#)
[Brussels Sets Out Tough New Line On Equivalence](#)
[China Bans Fourth-Richest Man From Insurance Sector](#)

Washington Times:

[Obama Loyalists Suspected Of "Sabotage" With Leak Of Travel Ban Report](#)
[Conservatives Rally Around Trump Agenda](#)
[3,000 From Seven Banned Countries Arrived In Days After Extreme Vetting Halted](#)
[New DNC Chairman Promises To Mend Fractured Democratic Party](#)
[First Mosque In Athens Heightens Tensions Over Muslims](#)
Trump Adviser Glad To Take Media Flak

Story Lineup From Last Night's Network News:

ABC: Fallen Navy SEAL-Father; Trump-Russia Tie Investigation; Mardi Gras Crash; Bill Paxton Dies; Mississippi Murder Suspect Manhunt; Jewish Cemetery Vandalism; Oscars Preparation; 911-GPS App; Houston Child Murder; Hockey Coach Violence; TV Court Judge Dies; Oscar-Natalie Portman; Oscars-Red Carpet.

CBS: Trump-Political Division; Mardi Gras Crash; Kansas City Bar Murder; Jewish Cemetery Vandalism; Oscars-Politics; Bill Paxton Dies; TV Court Judge Dies; Transgender Wrestler; Philadelphia Shooting Response Program; DC African-American Exhibition.

NBC: Mardi Gras Crash; Trump-Russia Tie Investigation; Trump Presidency-Public Opinion; New York Times-Trump Commercial; Oscar-Politics; Bill Paxton Dies; TV Court Judge Dies; Trump-Black University Executive Order; Transgender Wrestler; Maryland-Student Loan, Mortgage; Car Crash-Nurse.

Network TV At A Glance:

Mardi Gras Crash – 6 minutes, 45 seconds
Trump-Russia Tie Investigation – 4 minutes, 35 seconds
Oscars-Politics – 4 minutes, 15 seconds
Transgender Wrestler – 4 minutes, 10 seconds
Jewish Cemetery Vandalism – 40 seconds

Story Lineup From This Morning's Radio News Broadcasts:

ABC: Fallen Navy SEAL-Father; Obamacare Under Fire; Jewish Cemetery Vandalism; Academy Awards.

CBS: Academy Awards; Bill Paxton Dies; TV Court Judge Dies; Trump-Russia Tie Investigation.

FOX: White House-Leak Check; Trump-Governors' Ball; Navy Secretary Nominee Withdraws; Academy Awards.

NPR: Jewish Cemetery Vandalism; Trump-WH Correspondents' Dinner; Trump-Congress Speech; Academy Awards; LA Inmate Violence Trial; US Gasoline Price.

Last Laughs:

LATE NIGHT POLITICAL HUMOR.

No late-night talk shows aired last night.

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Sent Date:	2017/02/27 07:35:24
Delivered Date:	2017/02/27 07:37:51